



**AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 3, 2013**

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nelson Linder, Chair
Sherry Cherry
Wayne Cook
Dr. Chiquita Eugene

Clifford Gillard
Daryl Horton
Greg Smith, Vice Chair

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joe Barnes
Carrie Brown
Heather Chaffin
Regina Copic
Gordon Derr
Deborah Duncan
Barnetta Emerson
Melodye Foust
Herman Gentry

Connie Gonzales
Sandra Harkins
Stephanie Hayden
Larry Jackson
Sangeeta Jain
Shannon Jones
Dusty McCormick
Michael McDonald
Carlos Rivera

CALL TO ORDER—5:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by Commissioner Linder.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Mr. Phil Burns spoke to the Commission concerning the reconstruction/renovation of Bartholomew Pool.

Ms. Dorothy Jenkins spoke to the Commission concerning Austin Outreach which is an organization providing services to African American women for HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.

Mr. Kenneth Cotton spoke to the Commission concerning a Request for Proposals from Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (CMTA) for Rail Operations Consulting Services and their rail services in general. Mr. Cotton also spoke about the lack of opportunities for minorities with CMTA.

Ms. Arlene Youngblood spoke to the Commission concerning the reconstruction/renovation of Bartholomew Pool, the need for a Youth Hostel or YWCA in East Austin, and the need for a copy center east of I-35.

Ms. LaTonya Pegues spoke to the Commission concerning participation of minorities in events such as South by Southwest and treatment of minority patrons at E. 6th Street establishments.

Mr. Art Turner spoke to the Commission concerning the reconstruction/renovation of Bartholomew Pool.

Mr. John Livingston spoke to the Commission concerning the reconstruction/renovation of Bartholomew Pool.

2. Approval of the minutes from the March 6, 2013 Regular Meeting

The minutes stand as presented.

3. Presentation: Information on the 2013 Austin Independent School District Bond Program (Jarrell McCullar, MLA, Community Engagement Coordinator, Office of Facilities, Austin Independent School District)

Mr. Jarrell McCullar presented information on the May 2013 bond election for AISD.

4. Presentation: African American Quality of Life Health Initiative and the 10 Leading Causes of Death for African Americans in Travis County (Carlos Rivera, Director, Travis County Health & Human Services)

Mr. Rivera spoke about the leading causes of death in Travis County and stated that African Americans lead in most of them. The Health & Human Services Department is currently working with one mobile unit and will be requesting funding for a second unit in the 2014 budget process. Currently the HHSD has created several programs to promote healthier lives for African Americans.

5. Presentation: Parking on E. 11th Street & E. 12th Street (Gordon Derr, Assistant Director, Austin Transportation Department; George Zapalac, Development Services Manager, Planning & Development Review Department, Heather Chaffin, Planner Senior, Planning & Development Review Department; Sandra Harkins, Project Coordinator, Neighborhood Housing & Community Development, Regina Copic, Real Estate & Development Manager, Neighborhood Housing & Community Development)

Staff members from the Austin Transportation Department, Planning & Development Review Department, and Neighborhood Housing & Community Development Department spoke about the various zoning and planning overlays for the area as these affect the parking requirements for various areas of these two streets. Staff also informed the Commissioners about programs in ATD that could provide assistance with parking issues such as the Parking Benefit Districts and Residential Parking Permit programs. The Commission formed a working group consisting of Commissioners Smith & Gillard to work with Austin Transportation Department, Planning & Development Review Department, and Neighborhood Housing & Community Development Department staff to find some possible solutions and programs for the parking issues facing businesses on E. 11th & E. 12th Streets.

6. Discussion: Completion of photo selection for mural at the African American Cultural & Heritage Center

Due to time frame and availability of quality photographs, it was not possible to include everyone in the tiles on the mural that may have been included otherwise. The Commission would like to revisit this issue at the May meeting.

7. Set agenda items for future meetings, including non-substantive housekeeping matters (such as meeting dates, potential topics, and information and research requests for staff)

The Commissioners would like to have a Discussion/Action item on the agenda for May on the African American Cultural & Heritage Facility. The Commissioners would also like to have a presentation from the Parks & Recreation Department on the repairs/renovations at Bartholomew Pool and the Turner-Roberts Recreation Center. Commissioner Linder will work with Capital Metro to provide a presentation on addressing the transportation needs in northeast Austin.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.