



**AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
December 4, 2013**

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Smith, Chair
Sherry Cherry
Wayne Cook

Dr. Chiquita Eugene
Clifford Gillard
Nelson Linder

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joe Barnes
Carrie Brown
Sherryl DeCampo
Roxanne Evans
Melodye Foust
Rebecca Giello

Hailey Hale
Shannon Jones
Dusty McCormick
David Potter
Alan Washington

CALL TO ORDER—5:30 P.M.

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

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Mr. Mark Terry addressed the Commission regarding a new charter school on Highway 183. Mr. Terry is the School Superintendent.

Mr. Donell Creech addressed the Commission regarding the need for a larger African American presence at large events in Austin such as SXSW and ACL Festival. Mr. Creech noted that there is a need for discounted tickets subsidized for local residents.

Mr. Gene Mays addressed the Commission regarding a proposal and recommendation on parking in the E. 11th St. & E. 12th St. corridors. Mr. Mays would like to make a presentation at the next meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes from the November 6, 2013 Regular Meeting and the November 18, 2013 Special Called Meeting

The minutes stand as presented.

3. Updates from Working Groups

a. Small Business/Parking Issues on E. 11th & E. 12th Streets

Commissioner Smith stated that there is a meeting scheduled with City staff to discuss the completed parking study.

b. Photograph Selection for Mural

Commissioner Eugene stated that the final selection has been made for the photographs for the extension of the mural and the individuals to be installed for 2014 have been selected. This will be posted for Commission approval in January.

c. Health and Mental Health

Commissioner Cherry and Commissioner Smith have met with some of the Council Members concerning the recommendations of the Commission.

d. Public Safety

Commissioner Gillard stated that he has spoken with the Austin Police Department concerning ride-alongs for the Commission. APD is supportive of this, but will require an application to be completed. The application will be forwarded out to Commissioners soon.

4. Presentation on the impact of AIDS/HIV on the African American community (Shannon Jones, Deputy Director, Health & Human Services Department)

Mr. Shannon Jones and Ms. Sherryl DeCampo made a presentation to the Commission concerning the impact of AIDS and HIV on the African American community in Central Texas. Mr. Jones stated that due to the young average age of area residents, there is a tendency to behaviors that would constitute impaired judgment, such as substance abuse. This type of behavior contributes to the high number of individuals that are being diagnosed with HIV and AIDS.

5. Presentation on the impact of the \$55 million of Affordable Housing Bond funds approved by voters in 2006 and the process for utilization of the \$65 million in Affordable Housing Bonds approved by voters in 2013 (Rebecca Giello, Assistant Director, and David Potter, Neighborhood Development Specialist, Neighborhood Housing & Community Development Department)

Ms. Rebecca Giello and Mr. David Potter made a presentation to the Commission concerning the anticipated impact of the Affordable Housing Bond passed by the voters in 2013. Ms. Giello stated that the bond funds can be used to leverage other funding. From the \$55 million bonds approved in 2006 for Affordable Housing, the return on investment was at least \$196 million with the actual economic impact of \$865 million. Ms. Giello anticipates a similar ROI and economic impact with the funds approved in 2013. The expenditures from the bond funding will align with Imagine Austin recommendations.

6. 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 January meeting will be a work session held at City Hall to determine the Commission's goals and work plan for 2014. Also included on that agenda will be an action item for approval of the mural photos.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.