



**AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

January 8, 2014

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Greg Smith, Chair  
Sherry Cherry  
Wayne Cook  
Dr. Chiquita Eugene

Clifford Gillard  
Daryl Horton, Vice Chair  
Nelson Linder

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sheila Balog  
Roxanne Evans

Melodye Foust  
Michael McDonald

**CALL TO ORDER—5:30pm**

**1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

There were no speakers

**2. Discussion & Action: Selection of additional photographs for the Art in Public Places mural at the African American Cultural Heritage Facility**

Mr. Louis Simms spoke to the Commission about additional individuals he would like to have considered for future addition to the mural—Mr. Greg Hamilton, Mr. Don R. Nesby, and Mr. Ron Davis.

**A motion to proceed with installing the additional 22 photographs of individuals previously identified by the Working Group to the Art in Public Places mural at the African American Cultural & Heritage Facility and to install photographs of a minimum of two individuals annually to the bench that will be installed at the African American Cultural & Heritage Facility was made by Commissioner Linder; seconded by Commissioner Eugene. Vote 4-0 with Commissioners Cook, Gillard, and Horton off the dais.**

**3. Discuss Commission accomplishments and outcomes from previous work plan in preparation for Annual Report to City Council**

The Commissioners identified several accomplishments for 2013 including selection of photographs for the mural at the African American Cultural & Heritage Facility and the creation of a reference handbook guide; recommendations for additional funding for the African American Youth Harvest Foundation and MEEELJ; creation of several working groups; recommendation on funding a media campaign for health and mental health issues faced by the African American community; and a recommendation to preserve the remaining African American businesses and venues within the African American Cultural Heritage District.

#### **4. Determine Goals for 2014**

The following goals were identified by the Commission for 2014:

- Continued support of the education of African American youth
- Continue the work of the :Public Safety Working Group
- Continue the dialog with the Austin Transportation Department and the community to address parking issues on E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street & E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street

#### **5. Determine a Work Plan to support the 2014 Goals**

The Commission identified a work plan in support of each of the identified goals.

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

The February meeting will include approval of the goals and work plan for 2014, a presentation from Gene Mays on E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street parking issues, and a presentation on a resolution recently passed by the City of Austin Human Rights Commission in support of the African American Quality of Life Initiative.

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.