



African American Resources Advisory Commission

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

The African American Resources Advisory Commission convened in a meeting on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at the Street-Jones Building, 1000 East 11th Street in Austin, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 by Chair Kenneth Thompson.

African American Resources Advisory Commissioners:

Present: Chair Kenneth Thompson, LaTisha Anderson, Jessica Faith Carter, Miriam Conner, Aaron Demerson, Vice Chair Chiquita Eugene, Clifford Gillard, Tam Hawkins, Daryl Horton, Marissa Jones, Nelson Lindner, Farah Muscadin, and Gregory Smith

Absent: Ruthie Redmond

City Staff in Attendance: Assistant City Manager Mark Washington, EDD Development Services Administrator and Liaison Linda Hayes and EDD Small Business Program Manager Vicky Valdez.

1. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the September 12 regular meeting were approved as corrected following a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Anderson.

2. Chair's Report:

Chair Thompson acknowledged the past chairs of the Commission and briefed Commissioners about a desire in the community to put together tours highlighting the history of East Austin including the Carver Library and Passion House. Commissioner Linder suggested putting together a calendar of Black events to provide to Council members asking them to attend.

3. Citizen Communication:

- a. Chaz Moore spoke about the Meet and Confer agreement being negotiated with the Austin Police Department (APD) and the need for police accountability and improvements dealing with people with mental illness. He reported that complaints about police can now be filed online.
- b. Kathy Mitchell also spoke about the contract negotiations with APD and asked commissioners to talk with Council members about the contract, especially changing the "180 day rule".
- c. Homer Hill thanked the Commission for help with and support of the Urban Festival and invited them to meetings that are occurring every Tuesday to plan the next festival. He provided statistics regarding attendance, described the themes for the upcoming festival and asked for sponsorships for it.

4. Presentations:

- a. David Colligan and Julia Campbell from the Global Business Recruitment and Expansion Division of EDD briefed the Commission regarding their work to bring developments to Austin.

5. Working Groups:

- a. Mural: Rededication of the mural with new art work is scheduled for November 18.



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- b. Health and Mental Health: This working group was eliminated.
- c. Public Safety: Commissioner Linder asked the Commission's attendance at the October 26 conference and help with the case of Larry Jackson
- d. Solar and Economic:
- e. Youth and Education: Law clinic October 11 at HTU
- f. Urban Music/Other Cultural Activities:
- g. By-laws: No update
- h. Budget and Feasibility

6. Old Business:

- a. The Commission Retreat will be facilitated by Brion Oaks. Possible dates are October 6, 7 or 14 at ARA.
- b. Mark Washington gave a presentation on the budget and discussed the 50th Summit to be held in Austin.

7. New Business:

- a. Group photograph
- b. Rose Fellowship
- c. Small Minority Businesses, sponsors are Commissioners Anderson and Muscadin
- d. CDC for the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex, sponsors are Commissioners Smith and Linder

8. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Thompson.