



African American Resources Advisory Commission MINUTES

**MEETING
WEDNESDAY, June 1, 2016**

The African American Resources Advisory Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at Street-Jones Building, Room 400 in Austin, Texas.

African American Resources Advisory Commissioners in Attendance: LaTisha Anderson, Jessica Faith Carter, Aaron Demerson, Chiquita Eugene, Clifford Gillard, Daryl Horton, Marissa Jones, Lisa Fritsch, Michael Lee, Ruthie Redmond, Greg Smith, Nelson Linder, Kenneth Thompson, Tam Hawkins, . **Absent:** Aaron Whatley

City Staff in Attendance: Economic Development Department (EDD) Assistant Director Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, EDD Small Business Program Manager Vicky Valdez, EDD Economic & Business Development Liaison Dusty McCormick, Councilmember Houston's Senior Executive Assistant Beverly Wilson, Interim Assistant City Manager Washington, Jackie Mayo EDD Staff, and EDD Liaison Linda Hayes.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of the

1. Citizen Communications

1. Ashley Treat Development Coordinator Austin Can Academy – Help seniors to focus on college and career readiness this year they focus on staring with freshman to seniors the first day of school. Focus on resume ready and college applications. Wanting to work with groups to come in tour the school and interact with the students.
atreat@texancan.org
2. Jermaine Shorter - United for the People – provided transportation of veteran's medical appointments no services for getting from the home to and from doctor's appointments and wanting to provide shelters for veterans. He wanting to look at colleges and university and employment to keep the students loans down. Doing things to help the community.
3. Sheryl Cole – Discussion of the City of Austin Budget overview of the budget process if you have an organization seeking funds you need to start with staff before you make another step. 1) Deal professional staff, 2) count to six with council when you visit.

4. Laura Esparza – Invite the commission to the Carver Community Meeting on June 2, 2016 to the commission can see what it is about.

2. Approval of Minutes:

The meeting on the 26th was on a Thursday and change Urban League to Urban Music Festival, corrections from staff to use the assessment tool and bring four items budget recommendations.

3. Special Presentation – Discussion and Possible Action

Lisa Byrd Executive Director Of Six Square report on African American Cultural Heritage District Annual Report – 2015 annual report letting the commission know what Six Square is doing in the community. Expand the support team, communicating there store Austin African Cultural Heritage and change the name to Six Square Austin Black Cultural District. Lisa thanked the body for the assistance of the commission. Lisa introduced Donald King program coordinator, Board Chair Freddie Dixon and interim director Shuronda Robinson while the board searches for another director.

Tam Hawkins Greater Austin Black Chamber Annual Report - main focus the people of the community. The special event committee focuses the gala and thinking moving the annual gala to a luncheon. Programing to speak the heart of black business, the staff is local business. Partnerships with Six Square and other black businesses, what is going on in the Austin Tech sector and get technical business to Austin. Going digital in I am Black Austin, Austin Black Chamber Foundation to award scholarships for the community, Chamber care day - to give back to the black businesses.

The Chair asks the body to switch the numbers around to vote on the Joint Inclusion Officer.

5. Staffing Briefings

a. Elect Joint Inclusion Officer

Commissioner Michael Lee volunteers to serve - a unanimous vote

Backup commissioner Jessica Faith Carter - a unanimous vote

b. Update for working groups no groups met as of the meeting

4. Old Business

Budget Recommendations EDD Assistant Manager Sylnovia Holt-Rabb gave hindsight about the budget.

Homework assignment – spreadsheets provide for Commissioner Carter, Commissioner Eugene, and Letreese Cooke from MELJ Justice Center.

Commissioner Carter explain the spreadsheet she provided to the group

Commissioner Eugene explained the thought she had in pertaining to form on why she completed the form.

Letreese Cooke provided video of project that she would like for the commission to support.

Commissioner Anderson suggested to the commission to be there as the body to council like Council Member Houston said about the commissioners to come to the council meetings. Commissioner Gillard said for Homer Hill to come back to the commission again for another commission meeting. Commissioner Carter asked for amendment to the form to add a budget line item [purpose project summary or add a chart with the dollar amount]

Voted on add the line item to read a project summary or add a chart with the dollar amount.
Chair call for the vote - unanimous vote

We will get the form back out system to send by June 17th if the metric to score for the July 6th meeting.

Create a working group for the 2016 budget on it was uniramous vote on.

Members:

Clifford Gillard

Ruthie Redmond

Michael Lee

Jessica Faith Carter

Daryl Horton

5. Future Items Commission Thompson requested to put on the agenda item for the changing meeting dates

Chair adjourned the meeting