



African American Resources Advisory Commission

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

The African American Resources Advisory Commission convened in a meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 in the Britton, Durst, Howard, and Spence Community Center 1183 Chestnut Avenue, in Austin, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 5:55 by Chair Kenneth Thompson.

African American Resources Advisory Commissioners:

Present: Chair Kenneth Thompson, Vice Chair Dr. Chiquita Eugene, Jessica Faith Carter, Miriam Conner, Aaron Demerson, Clifford Gillard, Marissa Jones, and Nelson Linder, Daryl Horton and Elaina Fowler

Absent: LaTisha Anderson and Tam Hawkins,

City Staff in Attendance: Economic Development Department (EDD) Acting Deputy Director Sylvania Holt-Rabb, Economic Development Department, Chief Equity Officer Brion Oaks - Small Business Program Division Manager Vicky Valdez and EDD Development Services Administrator and Liaison Linda Hayes.

1. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the October 2nd, regular meeting were approved unanimously following a motion by Commissioner Gillard, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

2. Chair's Report:

Chair Thompson stressed to the Commissioners to please review the agenda to see they need to recuse from an item on the agenda. The chair discuss the Carver Complex needs and the commission needs to be more applicable. Chair recognize Commissioner Anderson on being elected as a Trustee for AISD.

3. Citizen Communication:

- a. **Stephanie Haden** from Austin Public health requested continuation of the conversation between the Commission and Austin Public Health regarding the \$5,000.00 that is included in the budget. She is willing to return at any time she is placed on the agenda.
- b. **Ge Thomas** from Central Texas Allied Health Institute said she applied at UT and ACC but was not accepted so she went to San Antonio and found a job. She is now back in Austin to start her own Institute and invites members of Austin's black community to work with her project.

4. Presentations:

- a. Givens Parks Master Plan – Kimberly McNeely City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department Austin Strategic Mobility Plan – Annick Beaudet Austin Transportation Department Lauren Garrett and Kim McNeely PARD– reported on how they are engaging with the community about the community meeting. CORE community meeting to discuss the final plan to the Master Plan better traffic flow, multi-purpose center, better restrooms still waiting on more resources. The pool is not part of the master plan and the pool will have its own engagement project. Kim will come back to discuss about the Givens Park concerns in a future meeting. Givens is not a dog park.
- b. City's Fair Chance Hiring Ordinance – Rochion Gregg, Fair Chance Hiring Investigator – City of Austin - Fair chance hiring presented on how it helps people that have a problem



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with their backgrounds. An employer cannot ask about if a person a criminal history. Austin is the only city that has this program in the South

- c. Human Resource Diversity Recruiter City of Austin – Janet Silva, Human Resources Consultant brief introduction and Rebecca Kennedy the introduction of the new Human Resources Recruiter
- d. Forklift Dance Works - Krissie Marty, Associate Artistic Director & Community Collaborations Director Commissioner Conner recuse herself while the presentation of Forklift Krissie Marty presentation power up provide arts in public places and helping Givens Park. Show in July – will get the video of turning trash into art plus the trash truck driver competition
- e. Police Oversight Advisory Working Group Update - Police Monitor Farah Muscadin Police Monitor – presentation of the tentative agreement with the police oversite working group went into the community to see what the problem was and it is fear. Improvements no faith in the process because no reporting back to the person. Close out meetings are helping. She is trying to build trust in the system. They will come to the community to get the complaints

5. Special Presentation: African American Community Alliance Community Update

- a. The Austin Revitalization Authority – Greg Smith, President – Eastside studio tour the art work Margaret Urdy information to come the Revitalization office
- b. The Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce – Tam Hawkins, President and CEO Excused Absence
- c. The Baptist Minister Union – Rev. Daryl Horton, President – 12\4 Ministers from San Antonio coming to Austin First Baptist on Heflin wanting to get more churching involve with Foster Care.
- d. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People – Excused Absence
- e. The Austin Area Urban League – None
- f. Cultural Arts - Clifford Gillard – Eastside studio tour - Fundraiser at the Belmont helping Veterans

6. Working Groups:

- a. Photograph Selection for Mural: No update
- b. Health and Mental Health: Health and Mental Health Meeting
- c. Public Safety – No update
- d. Expansion of the Carver Complex: 7.5 dollars and Chair Thompson will talk with City Manager about the Carver Complex
- e. Solar and Economic: No update
- f. Youth and Education: - Ms. Anderson elected as a Trustee to AISD School Board
- g. Urban Music/Other Cultural Activities:



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- h. Affordable Housing and Equitable Planning Group: Absent
- i. Commissioner Demerson is starting a new work group - None

7. Discussion and Possible Action:

- a. Approval of the 2019 Meeting Agenda Calendar

8. Future Agenda Items:

9. Announcements:

10. Adjournment: Commissioner Smith and 2nd Commissioner Jones