



AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION

September 12, 2012

Meeting Minutes

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Chiquita Eugene, Chair
Nelson Linder, Co-Chair
Greg Smith

Daryl Horton
Wayne Cook
Clifford Gillard

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carrie Brown
Sandra Harkins
Dusty McCormick

Melodye Foust
Kevin Johns

CALL TO ORDER—5:30 P.M.

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

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

There were no speakers.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 2, 2012 AND THE JULY 11, 2012 REGULAR MEETING.

The minutes stand as presented.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Update on African American Cultural & Heritage Facility (Sandra Harkins, Neighborhood Housing & Community Development)

Ms. Harkins provided a status report on the facility stating that weather issues, availability of materials, and problems discovered in renovating the 100-year-old part of the structure had delayed the opening of the facility. Ms. Harkins stated that the project is on budget.

b. Update on the Art in Public Places Project for the African American Cultural & Heritage Facility (Carrie Brown, Art in Public Places Program, Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services Office)

Ms. Brown showed slides of the production of the mural and stated that the installation would most likely occur in November after most of the construction equipment has been removed from the site, so as not to damage the mural once it is installed.

c. Report from Working Group concerning the information request to Austin Convention and Visitor's Bureau

Without objection this item was postponed.

d. Follow up on Presentation on work with African American health and mental health issues (Rev. Joseph Collins)

Mr. Collins showed an interview he had done with a local news station concerning mental health issues in the African American community. The interview highlighted that Texas is 50th in the nation when it comes to spending on mental health.

e. Follow up on Presentation on Khan Academy (Commissioner Sherry Cherry)

Without objection this item was postponed.

f. Reports from Commissioners on attending meetings of other City Boards and Commissions

Commissioner Linder attended the Public Safety Commission meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

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

For the October meeting, Commissioner Linder will arrange for a presentation on the two proposals for Single-Member Districts that will be on the November ballot. For November the Commission would like to have a presentation from King Davis of the University of Texas on mental health issues, an update on the Turner-Roberts Recreation Center and a presentation on the colony Park Master Plan from Betsy Spencer.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.