AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION

DECEMBER 14, 2015 AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

§ 2-1-101 - AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION.

- (A) The African American Resource Advisory Commission should have a balanced membership reflecting in-depth knowledge of the challenges and concerns of the African American community. The city council should appoint persons who are representative of or sensitive to the needs of the African American community in the city, and may appoint persons from the community-at-large and persons who are members of:
 - the Austin Area Urban League;
 - (2) the Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce;
 - the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People;
 - (4) the Pro Arts Collective;
 - (5) the Austin Revitalization Authority; and
 - (6) the Alliance for African American Health in Central Texas.
- (B) The city manager or designee shall serve as an ex officio member of the commission.
- (C) The commission shall advise the city council on issues relating to the quality of life for the City's African American community and shall recommend programs designed to alleviate any inequities that may confront African Americans in social, economic, and vocational pursuits, including:
 - health care;
 - housing, including affordable housing, home ownership, and homelessness;
 - entertainment opportunities for professionals and students;
 - (4) employment; and
 - cultural venues, including museums, theaters, art galleries, and music venues.
- (D) The commission shall advise the council on matters related to the African American Cultural and Heritage Facility, the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, and the African American Cultural Heritage District.
- (E) In addition to the 11 members nominated by the council, the council shall appoint six additional members nominated by the commission who represent the Austin Revitalization Authority, the Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Austin Area Urban League, the African American Cultural Heritage District Community Advisory Board, and the George Washington Carver Ambassadors.

Source: Ord. 20071129-011; Ord. 20111215-053; Ord. No. 20141211-204, Pt. 7, 7-1-15.

MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION ON DECEMBER 2, 2015

• Vote 1:

- Membership remaining at 17 per 2-1
- Died for lack of second
- Vote 2:
 - Recommend membership be reduced to 11
 - Failed on a vote of 7-2-2
- Vote 3:
 - Recommend membership be reduced to 11 with the 6 additional members serving as ex-officio
 - Failed on a vote of 8-2-1
 - Motion to reconsider this vote failed on a vote of 4-7
- Vote 4:
 - Recommend eliminating the African American Cultural Heritage
 District who has declined to provide a nomination
 - Failed on a vote of 7-2-2
 - Recommend the 4 nominations received from the organizations
 - Failed on a vote of 4-6-1

MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION ON DECEMBER 2, 2015

- Asked the Clerk to bring the issue to Audit and Finance for a recommendation.
- City Clerk's Office would initiate any required code change for approval at the January 28 Council Meeting.
- City Clerk's Office will work with the Commission to implement any changes approved by Council.

POSSIBLE OPTIONS

- Leave as is in Chapter 2-1
- Amend Chapter 2-1
 - 11 members appointed by Council with no additional stakeholder representatives
 - 17 members (11 appointed by Council and 6 nominated from the existing stakeholder groups but the 6 would be ex officio members)
 - 14 members (11 appointed by Council and 4 nominated by the Commission from unnamed stakeholder groups) [consistent with the Asian American Quality of Life]