



# African American Resources Advisory Commission

## MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

---

The African American Resources Advisory Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at Street-Jones Building, Room 400 in Austin, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 5:44 by Chair Daryl Horton.

### **African American Resources Advisory Commissioners:**

**Present:** LaTisha Anderson, Jessica Faith Carter, Chair Daryl Horton, Vice Chair Chiquita Eugene, Aaron Demerson, Tam Hawkins, Clifford Gillard, Marissa Jones, Michael Lee, Nelson Linder, Ruthie Redmond, and Greg Smith.

**Absent:** Lisa Fritsch, Kenneth Thompson and Aaron Whatley.

**City Staff in Attendance:** Economic Development Department (EDD) Assistant Director Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Assistant City Manager Mark Washington, EDD Small Business Program Manager Vicky Valdez, Council Member Ora Houston, Council, and EDD Development Services Administrator and Liaison Linda Hayes.

### **1. Approval of the Minutes:**

The minutes of the October 5, 2016 meeting were approved as corrected following a motion from Commissioner Nelson Linder which was seconded by Commissioner LaTisha Anderson.

### **2. Citizen Communication:**

None.

### **3. Presentations:**

- a. Chief Equity Officer Brion Oaks – corner stone developing equity assessment tool to help make better decision, the challenging of the equity through the city. He will return back in January he will share the assessment finding of GARES. Will share with all of the quality life commissions.
- b. Laura Exparza Division Manager Museums and Cultural Centers – Discussion on the Cultural Center Hiring Process. George Washington Carver Genealogy and Cultural Center Brief the commission on the hiring process for the manager for the carver. Update on the recruitment of the manager. Haven't started the process only posted the position. Hiring process and intent on hiring the candidate for the job. Also speak to values and concerns for the community. Hiring of qualification and not hiring on the basis of race or gender. It is the prefer qualifications of the job qualification. Conduct focus groups with the community to collect feedback regarding desired characteristics of the new leader. The interview panel will consist on community leader and from the African American Community. The final interview will be done by the executive staff. Top candidate will begin January 2017. Kimberly McNeely Asst. Director of Austin PARD also assisted Ms. Esparaza on the presentation to the commission.



# African American Resources Advisory Commission

## MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

---

- c. Robert Kingham Manager of Social Services Policy for Austin Travis County Health and Human Services updated from one of the budget items the African American Youth Harvest Festival will move the funding for the project in December.
- d. Commission Linder on the Mayor's task force headed up the AISD Superintendent Paul Cruz and Huston Tillotson University President Dr. Colette Burnette. Commission Linder let the commission know that Commissioner Smith and Chair Horton are on the committee. How we they assist with the equity of Austin and race issues with the Police Department and the community.

### 4. Working Groups

- a. Small Business/Parking Issues on E. 11<sup>th</sup> & E. 12<sup>th</sup> Streets - None
- b. Photograph Selection for Mural – Dr. Eugene provide a mural report
- c. Health and Mental Health - None
- d. Public Safety - None
- e. Expansion of Carver Library - None
- f. Solar and Economic - None
- g. Youth and Education- None
- h. Urban Music/Other Cultural Activities - None
- i. Changes to By-Laws and Commission Membership - None
- j. Feasibility ~ Budget Recommendations - None

### 5. Old Business:

*None*

### 6. New Business:

*None*

### 6. Future Agenda Items:

- a. Austin Convention and Visitor's Bureau – Tom Noonan, President and CEO (February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017)

The meeting was adjourned following a motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner Anderson.