



African American Resources Advisory Commission

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday December 4, 2018

The African American Resources Advisory Commission convened in a meeting on Tuesday, December 4, 2018 in the Executive Session Conference Room of City Hall 1st Floor, in Austin, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 5:47 pm 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, Nelson Linder, Daryl Horton and Elaina Fowler

Absent: LaTisha Anderson, Tam Hawkins, Nelson Linder, Marissa Jones, and the removal of Ruthie Redmond for the roll accepted a new job in Arizona

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

1. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the November 13th, regular meeting was reviewed with one correction that Commissioner Greg Smith was in attendance of the meeting and then the minutes were approved unanimously following a motion by Commissioner Gillard, seconded by Commissioner Linder.

2. Chair's Report:

City of Austin Update - Chair Thompson discussed his meeting with City Manager Spencer Cronk – about the Carver Complex and his diversity with city employment and the Black Community. Chair question the City Manager about the land in East Austin Community and requested for him to be up front about funding with community and the community policing and how it enter act with law enforcement.

Community of Austin Updates Election cycle with the new council member and a budget workshop for the commissioners to attend he will let the chair know about the training it will be held on a Saturday morning. The commission table the discussion to get the community on board and for the community to attend the meeting to be aboard about the budget.

3. Citizen Communication:

- a. **Carlos Leon** he wanted the Commission to be aware of a concern he had about the treatment of racism between a White Pastor and a Black Pastor and how the Black Pastor was treated.
- b. **Ali Ghilarducci**- she works at AISD and the concerns on the activities going on in East Austin and Norman Elementary site dedication. She announce the memorial ceremony in early 2019 for the community with the moderation of the old L.C. Anderson Alumni School. She will be put on the agenda for the January meeting.
- c. **Jereka Thomas Hockaday & Todd Hamilton** – Stephanie Haden needs to get a resolution to get the funding transfer and the recommendation came from Council Member Kitchen – she requested a resolution get the funds transfer to Mental Health.



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4. Presentations:

- a. **Austin Strategic Mobility Plan – Annick Beaudet Austin Transportation Department** – presentation overall of the current transportation plan working with the community about the roads in the community. Presentation on the plans on the roads and sidewalk plans that the city is reviewing for example bike, uber, and certain road ways with recommendation from the community. Go the website to give suggestions. Will supply the demographic information and will share with the commission.
- b. **Austin Park and Recreation - Laura Esparza** update on Carver Museum update program, update on the bond, and update on the master plan. The Carver working group with work with the Carver to draft up the proposal. Contract selection will have the commission to work with. The liaison read the names of the working group and Ms. Conner's name was added to the working group.
- c. **Community Health Improvement – Casandra DeLeon –Manager/Planning and Evaluation Unit Health Equity Community Engagement Division and Scott White – Austin Health Department** – Dr. Eugene is recuse herself because she is housed at the Health Department. Introduce herself to the commission

5. Special Presentation: African American Community Alliance Community Update

- a. **The Austin Revitalization Authority** – Greg Smith, President – recommended commission board members attend sexual harassment and diversity training and all commissioner is required to attend the training. The joint inclusion committee will not take a stand on it;
- b. **The Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce** – Tam Hawkins, President and CEO had an excused absence;
- c. **The Baptist Minister Union** – Rev. Daryl Horton, President – getting more people to read to third graders and getting the community to assist. State adoption care in the community. Next Tuesday Pastors from San Antonio will be meeting with the Pastors in Austin and will attend the Martin Luther King worship service at Mount Zion Baptist Church.
- d. **The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People** – Nelson Linder President – Mr. Linder requested for the working group to meet with Ms. Thomas Hoda about her concerns;
- e. **The Austin Area Urban League** – Quincy Dunlap, President and CEO, absent
- f. **Cultural Arts** - Clifford Gillard – 1st night

6. Working Groups:

- a. **Photograph Selection for Mural**: one request but incomplete
- b. **Health and Mental Health**: - meeting with Stephanie Hayden and placing this item on next month commission agenda and the working group added additional name Chair Kenneth Thompson and Daryl Horton. Put the discussion of the Central Texas Allied Health Institute Resolution on next month agenda.



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- 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**: - Non education person to assist with the working group Ms. Fowler will speak on the group Commissioner Fowler will serve
- g. **Urban Music/Other Cultural Activities**: No update
- h. **Affordable Housing and Equitable Planning Group**: take the concerns to the City Manager Commissioners meeting are Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Linder, Commissioner Carter, Commissioner Demerson, and Chair Thompson
- i. **Commissioner Demerson is starting a new work group** - None

7. Discussion and Possible Action:

8. Future Agenda Items:

- a. Stronger Austin – Kimberly McNeeley, CPRP, Acting Director Austin Parks and 1 Recreation Department.
- b. Resolution for Mental Health
- c. Ryan Robinson for Brian Weeks City Demographics
- d. PARD budget cuts
- e. Martin Luther King March get the community to support the parade
- f. The District Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison to attend a meeting
- g. Send out and update on the legislated session of the intergovernmental.

9. Announcements:

10. Adjournment: Commissioner Smith and 2nd Commissioner Eugene