



African American Resources Advisory Commission

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday January 8, 2019

The African American Resources Advisory Commission convened in a meeting on Tuesday, January 8th, in the Executive Session Conference Room of City Hall 1st Floor, in Austin, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 5:56 pm by Chair Kenneth Thompson.

African American Resources Advisory Commissioners:

Present: Chair Kenneth Thompson Jessica Faith Carter, Miriam Conner, Clifford Gillard, Greg Smith Marissa Jones, Nelson Linder, Marissa Jones, Tam Hawkins, Daryl Horton and Elaina Fowler

Absent: Vice Chair Dr. Chiquita Eugene, Aaron Demerson

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 December 4th, 2018 regular meeting were reviewed and approved with one correction unanimously following a motion by Commissioner Gillard, seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Chair asked if any Commissioner needed to be recused from the meeting pertaining to the items on the agenda.

2. Chair's Report:

Announce the New Mural Honoree - Chair Thompson discuss the new mural honoree Mr. Alex Porter and the Chair provided the electronic documentation for the Commissioners to review.

3. Citizen Communication:

- a. **kYmberly Keeton** introduced herself to the Commission being recently appointed African American Community Archivist & Librarian at the Austin History Center and Austin Public Library. The Commission requested her name be placed on the agenda for the February Commission meeting
- b. **Donna Hoffman and Blackshear Elementary School**- [she as green is the new black]. Building on the works in the schools and will come back to the March commission meeting

4. Presentations:

- a. **Austin Health Public Department –Stephanie Hayden** – discuss mental health funds for the African American Community; disparity prospective data in Travis County and in Austin along with the Equity Programs and dates pertaining to Health care by Zip Code. Stephanie will attend the February meeting to present a draft on a scope of work in the community and put a working group together before the next Commission meeting.
- b. **Austin Independent School District Community Engagement Department – Ali Ghilarducci** – the builders will discuss the design of the school and whether it will stay the same and take away from the original site. The ground breaking ceremony was January 19th at 9:30 A.M – high school for 800 students that will attend and have the



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opportunity to attend ACC on the same campus. The facility is the Old Anderson High School.

- c. **The Perfect Addition** – Patricia Calhoun and Marilyn Pool, Children Havens Association. Ms. Pool introduced Ms. Calhoun. The school needs and est. \$67,000.00 with a deadline of mid-March to pay. Permit is needed with Small Business will assist with the permit. Historical preservation for the site. Chair Thompson will go visit the site.
- d. **Stronger Austin – Kimberly McNeeley, CPRP, Acting Director Austin Parks and Recreation Department** – health disparity with health programing – Kim was ask to return with demographics of the black community
- e. **Neighborhood Housing – Rosie Truelove Director of Neighborhood Housing – Housing Trust Fund consolidating plan with Community Value investing housing in need.**
- f. **Disparity Study Propose Scope - Veronica Briseno, Small & Minority Business [SMBR] Director** – Minority Women Base Program Race Base Program disparity study series of outreach. Commissioner Smith would like the data on the scopes of works on the contracts.

5. Special Presentation: African American Community Alliance Community Update

- a. The Austin Revitalization Authority – Greg Smith, President – no update
- b. The Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce – Tam Hawkins, President and CEO – no update
- c. The Baptist Minister Union – Rev. Daryl Horton, President – Mt. Zion on January 28th at 5:00 the Martin Luther King Program
- d. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People – Nelson Lender, President
- e. The Austin Area Urban League – Quincy Dunlap, President and CEO – no update
- f. Cultural Arts – Clifford Gillard:

6. Working Groups:

- a. Photograph Selection for Mural - Update
- b. Health and Mental Health – Central Texas Allied Health Institute Resolution
- c. Public Safety - Update
- d. Expansion of the Carver Complex - Update
- e. Solar and Economic - Update
- f. Youth and Education - Update
- g. Urban Music/Other Cultural Activities – Update
- h. Affordable Housing and Equitable Planning Group - Update
- i. Commissioner Demerson is starting a new work group - None

7. Discussion and Possible Action:

8. Future Agenda Items:



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- a. Resolution for Mental Health
- b. Ryan Robinson for Brian Weeks City Demographics
- c. PARD budget cuts
- d. New Legislation – Brie Franco Intergovernmental Relation Office of Government Relations
- e. The District Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison to attend a meeting
- f. New Fire Chief – Joel Baker
- g. Donna Hoffman – Blackshear Reunion and Friendly R. Rice Mural unveiling

9. Announcements:

10. Adjournment: Commissioner Smith and 2nd Commissioner Eugene