

Commission on Community Relations and Development
October 11, 2022
6:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chair Terri Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and asked for a volunteer to do the Invocation.

II. Invocation

Councilmember Hiawatha Jones

III. Roll Call (Members Present)

Terri Bradley Edna Battle
Chretien Dumond Washea Lancaster
Marcus Lewis Stephen McFarland
Amber Tyler Roderick White
Councilmember Hiawatha Jones City Manager Timothy Salmon
Guest: Matthew Whittle

IV. Adoption of Agenda

- Chair Terri Bradley asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Member Stephen McFarland offered the motion and Member Edna Battle seconded. All were in favor and the agenda was adopted.

V. Old Business

A. Approval of meeting minutes (September 13, 2022)

Chair Terri Bradley asked for a motion to approve the September 13, 2022 meeting minutes. Member Amber Tyler offered the motion and Member Marcus Lewis seconded. All were in favor and the meeting minutes were approved.

VI. New Business

A. Work Session to prepare for City Council Presentation (Nov. 21st)

Members discussed items for the work session presentation and concluded the following:

1. By-Laws: To share that the by-laws have recently been reviewed and revised and that two new subcommittees will be formed.
2. Community Relations Items: Events (past & present), desire to promote more inclusiveness
3. Community Development Items: Inviting subject experts to serve on new subcommittee, developing an affordable housing plan, becoming more involved in the Annual Action Plan

Additional items discussed included:

1. Requesting funding for events
2. Participation in the Christmas parade
3. Poster contests at schools
4. Short essay contest
5. December (holiday) meeting at a restaurant like last year

VII. Liaison's Report

- A. September 2022 Community Relations Department Report: Liaison shared the CR Department's monthly report for September. For the month of September, the department received 1 housing complaint and 27 requests for assistance.
- B. Boards & Commissions General Rules/Ordinance: Liaison shared that Council recently approved the revised rules and starting with today's meeting, sickness or injury will be the only excused absences.
- C. HOME-ARP: Liaison shared that the 5 agencies that have been proposed to possibly be funded with HOME-ARP funds have been asked to present at the next City Council meeting, scheduled for October 17th.
- D. Subcommittees: Liaison inquired about scheduling subcommittees. After discussion, Liaison recommended splitting the CCRD meeting with 1 hour being regular CCRD business and the 2nd hour being the 2 subcommittees meeting separately. All were in favor.

VIII. Action Items (Requiring Vote)

- A. Affordable Housing Commission: Liaison asked the CCRD to provide a response to Mr. Matthew Whittle about the Affordable Housing Commission. Members discussed that they wish to focus on getting a handle on how the CCRD should operate and not stand up an ad hoc subcommittee for affordable housing. Liaison asked for an official vote on the matter. Member Washea Lancaster made the motion to not stand up the ad hoc subcommittee and Member Roderick White seconded. Majority were in favor and the motion carried.

B. Christmas Parade: Liaison asked for a vote for participation in the 2022 Christmas Parade. Member Amber Tyler offered the motion that the CCRD would participate. Member Stephen McFarland seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. Liaison agreed to complete the parade application and submit it to the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce.

VIII. Announcements & Adjournment

Member Roderick White shared that Yolanda Winstead from the State of NC should be invited to a meeting to share about affordable housing.

Member Chretien Dumond encouraged all to vote.

Chair Terri Bradley thanked Councilmember Hiawatha Jones for her support.

Councilmember Hiawatha Jones shared initiatives about Red Ribbon Week, Anti-Bullying, Domestic Violence, and Purple Purse.

Member Edna Battle shared initiatives about Breast Cancer Awareness, Anti-Bullying, and the status of Dillard Academy Charter School making the High Performing List.

Chair Terri Bradley asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Chretien Dumond offered the motion. Member Edna Battle seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:42 pm.

***Minutes taken and prepared by Liaison Felecia Williams, MS/QP**