

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio
January 23, 2007

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on January 23, 2007.

Councilwoman, Nickie Antonio, presided at the meeting (until Chairpersons were elected). Attending the meeting were the following members of the Committee: Sean Brennan, Don Carlson, Anila Coniku Nicklos, Nahida Farunia, Steve Greenwell, David Howard, D. L. Meckes, Chris Serger, Lisa Shaffer-Gill, Mark Timieski, Kyle Weigand and Holly Whisman. Also present by invitation of the Committee were: Mayor Tom George and Dennis Dunn. Notice having been duly given and a quorum being present, Ms. Antonio called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. local time.

Personal and professional introductions of all committee persons were conducted.

Mr. Dunn and Ms. Antonio discussed, in detail, the history of the Commission, which was designed by members of council to support social, political, economic and cultural networking and communication amongst the City's residents.

Ms. Antonio led a brief discussion about the history of the Ordinance (Ordinance No: 87-05), establishing the Commission.

A Bylaws Committee was selected, comprised of Messrs. Brennan and Carlson (other Commission members will participate as needed)

Co-chairpersons of the Commission were unanimously elected, comprised of Mr. Greenwell and Mmes. Coniku Nicklos and Shaffer-Gill. Mr. Weigand was unanimously elected Secretary of the Commission.

Quarterly meetings of the Commission, as stated in the Ordinance, were discussed. Commission, as a whole, agreed to conduct meetings more frequently, if necessary (there will likely be at least six (6) meetings per year). Moreover, Commission agreed to form sub-committees within the Commission in order to allow more meeting flexibility as well as to allow the Commission to meet with people from all groups of residents from the City.

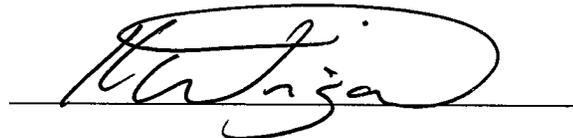
A discussion of the Inclusive Communities Partners Program commenced. Examples of ideas that have taken place within other organizations included Diversity Potlucks at Lakewood Park and various other "getting to know you" activities. All Commission members were receptive to ideas like the aforementioned in order to involve all groups of Lakewood residents. Getting to know each other through "food" was well received. A discussion of a "Community Conversations" program ensued, stemming from the prior conversation. Conversations, ideally, will take place between residents of all types in order to take the figurative pulse of the City. Discussion of the vast importance on the "getting to know your neighbor" theory took place.

In order to better "take an inventory to determine what is taking place in our City" as well as to determine what other residents of the City think is going on in the City, a sub-committee was formed, aptly named the Diversity Inventory/Resources Committee. Members of this sub-committee are Messrs. Howard, Brennan, Carlson, Timiesky and Weigand and Mmes. Coniku Nicklos and Whisman. The sub-committee will meet to brainstorm on the gathering of community resources and facts to better inform the City's residents of the "goings on" of the City, and all of its offerings and assistance.

Communication matters were discussed, as well as the possibility/feasibility of a message-board utilizing the online capabilities of the Lakewood Observer. Details are yet to be determined.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, at approximately 8:00 p.m., Mr. Greenwell declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Weigand", is written over a horizontal line.

Kyle A. Weigand, Secretary
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory
Commission