

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio
March 7, 2007

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on March 7, 2007.

Chairperson Greenwell presided over the meeting. Attending the meeting were the following members of the Committee: Sean Brennan, Steve Greenwell, David Howard, D. L. Meckes, Chris Serger, Lisa Shaffer-Gill, Mark Timieski and Kyle Weigand. Notice having been duly given and a quorum being present, Chairperson Greenwell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. local time.

Attendance was taken.

Ms. Meckes led a discussion about the Bylaws of the Commission; status and development of same. It was decided that Ordinance 87-05 would be the backbone of the Bylaws for the Commission and various changes would be adapted to the ordinance as seen fit by the Commission members. Specific topics discussed were frequency of meetings, number of chairpersons, minutes of the meetings, committees within the commission and the general purpose/mission statement of the Commission.

Discussion of the mission statement of the Commission ensued; how to construct same and how detailed or non-specific the statement should be worded. Discussion among the members also consisted of what, specifically, members are to do/how to represent oneself to media or various other outlets if asked specific questions about the Commission or opinions of the Commission as a whole.

The "Issues" Committee presented various reports to the Commission as a whole (presented by Messrs. Brennan, Howard and Weigand). Subjects addressed and handouts distributed concerned:

- Demographic information for Area, Housing, Crime, Schools and churches.
- Matters regarding "Section 8" or government subsidized housing within the city limits – where, how frequent, trends and how to address.
- Issues within the community (i.e. perceptions of what the community as a whole believes is "happening to/in Lakewood").
- Guest speakers – Ken Warren (PRISM); David Estrop (schools); and present and future real estate/development – "Selling the City".

Discussion of "Community Conversations" commenced. Members agreed that there needs to be a commonality found within members of the community. Examples to promote commonality and tolerance consisted of a parade with all ethnic/diversity flags; an ethnic community festival with food/drinks etc.

Lastly, discussion of the Lakewood Observer message board, specifically designed for the Commission, took place. It was suggested that members utilize the resource that Ms. Meckes has developed for the Commission.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Kyle A. Weigand, Secretary
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory
Commission