

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio
April 3, 2007

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on April 3, 2007.

Chairperson Shaffer-Gill presided over the meeting. Attending the meeting were the following members of the Committee: Nickie Antonio (Councilperson At-Large), Sean Brennan, Don Carlson, Moira Dugan, Nahida Farunia, D. L. Meckes, Anila Nicklos, Chris Serger, Lisa Shaffer-Gill, Mark Timieski, Kyle Weigand and Holly Whisman. Notice having been duly given and a quorum being present, Chairperson Shaffer-Gill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. local time.

Attendance was taken.

A brief discussion of how to handle the procedure of Minutes of the Commission took place. The minutes will be taken and drafted by the Secretary, emailed to the members for any comments/suggestions/changes and finalized by the Secretary. Minutes will be posted, once finalized, on the Observation Deck.

Ms. Meckes led a discussion about the Bylaws of the Commission; status and development of same. It was reiterated 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. Any suggestions for the Bylaws will be posted to the Observation Deck, along with a copy of the ordinance.

In association with the Bylaws discussion, talk of the mission statement of the Commission ensued; how to construct same and how detailed or non-specific the statement should be worded. Mr. Carlson wanted to discuss the mission/bylaws further and suggested that the Bylaws subcommittee meet. It was decided by the members that all suggestions to the Bylaws should go through the Observation Deck.

The "Issues" Committee had no new reports for this meeting.

Discussion of an "Events/Community Festival Subcommittee" commenced. Members agreed that the Commission should be involved with the encouragement and planning of the Community Festival on Madison Avenue (music, food etc.). A general

"Events" subcommittee was formed and Ms. Dugan volunteered to initiate same subcommittee. Ideas for the Commission's involvement in helping to "take the pulse" of the City's residents would be to devise a simple, yet open-ended survey that could be distributed at various Citywide events. Mr. Serger volunteered to initiate same "Survey" subcommittee. Specifics of said survey were also briefly discussed (e.g. how to distribute, what kinds of questions, how to get message out to City residents). It was decided that spreading the word of the existence of the new Commission and what the Commission's intentions are two important issues.

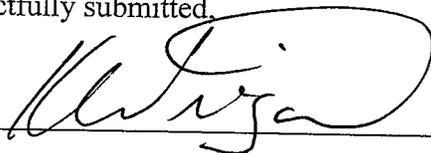
A discussion of inviting Mr. Blaine Griffin of the City of Cleveland's Community Relations Board to attend and speak at the next Commission meeting took place. It was decided that Mr. Griffin should be invited to attend the next meeting to simply observe and offer suggestions for the Commission, as well as share his experiences leading one of the longest-standing Board's in the City of Cleveland.

Meeting dates were set for May 1, 2007 and June 5, 2007. Mr. Griffin is invited and will attend the May 1 meeting.

Councilwoman Antonio led a brief discussion regarding the Community Conversations subcommittee. Ms. Antonio will give an abridged discussion of her expertise and knowledge in how to converse effectively in pairs and groups with facilitated conversation. It was decided that Mr. Griffin will speak at the May meeting and Ms. Antonio will lead this exercise at the June meeting.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, at approximately 8:00 p.m., Chairperson Shaffer-Gill declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Kyle A. Weigand, Secretary
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory
Commission