

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio  
October 14, 2008

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on October 14, 2008.

Chairpersons Nicklos and Shaffer-Gill presided over the meeting. Attending the meeting were the following members of the Commission: Nickie Antonio (Lakewood City Councilwoman At-Large), Nahida Farunia, Joe Lobo, Litha Macon, D.L. Meckes, Anila Nicklos, Lisa Shaffer-Gill and Kyle Weigand. Various invitees were also in attendance including Richard Cole, Jean Yousefi, Sean Wheeler, Chuck Greanoff, Lisa Simoneau-Bender, Jean Blalock and Marie Toledo. Notice having been duly given and a quorum being present, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. local time.

Attendance was taken.

The Mission Statement of the Commission was recited.

All guests to the meeting were introduced.

Ms. Meckes moved to approve the minutes of the September meeting of the Commission; Mr. Weigand seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of the database/webpage list was tabled until next month's meeting.

Committee Reports:

Speakers Series – Discussion of the first speaker and how to execute the idea and how to effectively invite the community ensued. Mmes. Nicklos and Macon and Mr. Weigand discussed how the idea for the Series was hatched and the basic premise for the Series as well (for the benefit of guests and commission members alike). Ms. Antonio further discussed the Series, Community Conversations and potluck events. Additional discussion of the information distribution portion of the Commission's function was presented as well. Facing Our History (a speakers series that is conducted in the schools in the region) was discussed as well – how to get this series to the Lakewood High School.

Information Distribution – Discussion ensued regarding the status of gathering and distributing information to the entire community about the Commission and what Lakewood has to offer culturally, ethnically, etc. The Good Neighbor Guide and the Recycling packet were discussed. The perception of the well-intentioned, but maybe not as well-executed

Guide, was discussed. Any materials sent from the Commission must be 100% welcoming.

A side discussion of the topics of race and economics/social status ensued. It was lively, important and very well received.

Discussion of new Commission chairs was tabled until the November meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Commission is to be held November 11, 2008.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, at approximately 8:00 p.m., Mr. Weigand motioned the meeting adjourned and Ms. Shaffer-Gill seconded.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Kyle A. Weigand, Secretary  
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory  
Commission