

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio
November 10, 2009

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on November 10, 2009.

Attending the meeting were the following members of the Commission: Nickie Antonio- Lakewood City Council At- Large, Paula Maeder Connor, Greg Mahoney, Joe LoboZZo, Moira Dugan, Steve Greenwell, Nahida Farunia and April Stoltz. Notice having been duly given and a quorum being present, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. local time.

-Block Club Meeting Follow Up:

Members of the Commission introduced themselves to the various citywide block club members at the recent City of Lakewood Block Club meeting. Councilwoman Antonio explained the Community Conversations dialogue to the Block Club Captains and offered a similar dialogue to respective individual block clubs. Members of the Commission felt that the message was well received by the Block Captains. Members of the Commission did not receive a follow up from any of the Block Captains of their interest. The Commission will conduct a follow up with Michael Tuttle, CERT Coordinator for the City of Lakewood.

- Diversity Potluck:

The Annual Diversity Potluck will be held on January 21, 2010 from 5-8 pm at the Lakewood Park Women's Club Pavilion. The City of Lakewood, Lakewood City Schools and Lakewood Hospital will team up with the Commission in terms of outreach. Members of the Commission discussed various ideas in regards to the potluck. Councilwoman Antonio shared successful experiences from previous potlucks. Ms. Stoltz suggested the following marketing slogan of "Its an Indoor Block Party" shall be incorporated into the branding process of the potluck. Ms. Stoltz also made a suggestion of allocating five to ten minutes to market the Community Conversations dialogue for individual streets. The Commission then delegated various tasks to Members of the Commission to ensure the success of the potluck. Ms. Stoltz will work on pizza and coffee donations. Mr. LoboZZo will try to recruit Lakewood High School students to volunteer their efforts and talents for entertainment, setup and games. Councilwoman Antonio will organize 'ice breakers". Rev. Maeder Connor will work on table setup. Mr. Greenwell will work on a press release to submit to City of Lakewood Community Relations Specialist Melissa Garrett and to the Lakewood Observer.

Mr. Mahoney will work with Giant Eagle for the possible donation of five duraflame logs. Mr. Mahoney and Ms. Farunia will assist with cleanup.

- Congratulatory and thank you letters:

Congratulatory and thank you letters will be sent to respective individuals and groups who have worked with the Commission in the past.

- Facing History exhibit:

The Facing History exhibit will be held at the Western Reserve Historical Society on December 6, 2009. Ms. Stoltz will find out information in regards to the time of the exhibit so Members of the Commission can attend as one group.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Oak Tree Manor:

One third of the Oak Tree Manor apartment complex in between Edwards and Bonnieview avenues has been sub-leased to patients of Mental Health Services. Mental Health Services is an organization that assists individuals with mental health disabilities gain independent living skills through resident assistants who closely monitor the patients. The sub-lease of these apartment units to Mental Health Services has created public opposition with Edwards and Bonnieview residents. Ms. Stoltz made a suggestion of hosting Community Conversations Dialogue with Edwards and Bonnieview residents and Mental Health Services. Mental Health Services is willing to have an open house with Edwards and Bonnieview residents.

- Lakewood High School "RAD" group:

Mr. Loboza indicated that students form Lakewood High School's Racial and Diversity group known as "RAD" is interested in conducting a community-based presentation of race and diversity awareness. The Commission can possibly assist with this.

The next meeting of the Commission is to be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2009.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, at approximately 7:55 p.m. Rev. Maeder Connor motioned the meeting adjourned. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory D. Mahoney, Interim Secretary
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission