

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio
May 11, 2010

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on May 11, 2010.

Attending the meeting were the following members of the Commission: Greg Mahoney, Joe Lobo, April Stoltz, Paula Maeder Connor, Dan Saracina, Gayle Wellman, Nadahl Eadah, Barbara Schwartz. Melissa Garrett from the Office of Community Relations for the City of Lakewood was also in attendance. Notice having been duly given and a quorum being present, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. local time.

- New Commission Secretary:

Former Commission Secretary Kyle Weigand made a formal announcement at the prior Commission meeting that he will be resigning from the Commission due to other commitments he is pursuing. Ms. Stoltz made the motion to nominate Greg Mahoney as the next Secretary of the City of Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission. Mr. Mahoney accepted the nomination. Members of the Commission appointed Mr. Mahoney by a unanimous vote.

- Other Commission Appointments:

With Former Commission Member Kyle Weigand's resignation, the Commission currently stands three members short. These three vacancies are all Mayoral appointees. The Commission brainstormed possible candidates and determined which community groups need representation. The Commission can possibly look into the Student community. For example, Lakewood High School student body organizations such as the RAD group could be potential candidates for representation. The Senior Citizen community can use representation such as residents of the Westerly, Southwesterly, Barton Center, etc.

- Future Speakers and Community Conversations engagements:

Members of the Commission agreed to have a joint Speakers and Community Conversations engagement focused on the topic of Lakewood's neighborhood parks and recreational opportunities. Members of the Commission focused on two possible dates for this engagement. The first date the Commission selected was Wednesday June 23rd with Thursday June 24th being the second choice. The likely venue for this event will be at the Lakewood Park Women's Club Pavilion. Members of the Commission brainstormed possible panel speakers such as Dru Siley from the City of Lakewood Planning Department, Ward 3 Neighborhood Police Officer Kevin Fischer, Mary Hall from the City of Lakewood Division of Youth and CSU Urban Studies Professor Ned Hill. A Community Conversations dialogue will follow the speaking part of this event. In order to make this upcoming event a successful reality, members of the Commission formed into a speakers and a community conversations committee. Mr. Mahoney, Ms. Stoltz and Ms. Wellman will be on the Speakers Committee to make scheduling arrangements with possible speakers. Mr. Eadah, Mr. Lobo, Mr. Saracina, Ms. Schwartz and Rev. Maeder Connor will be on the Community Conversations Committee to try and formulate constructive discussion topics and questions in the small groups in which participants will be involved in at the event.

- RAD outreach event follow up:

Mr. Loboizzo thanked all of the members of the Commission for their support and helpful efforts at the recent Lakewood High School RAD Fundraiser, which was a successful fundraising event.

- LOBC follow up:

Mr. Eadah provided the Commission with a detailed follow up about the efforts of the Lakewood Outdoor Basketball Committee. LOBC is working with potential community partners to create a pilot project to incorporate Outdoor Basketball Playing within the city's parks. These potential partners include the City, Friends of Madison Park, YMCA, and Lakewood High School Men's Basketball Coach Phil Argento. LOBC is currently working with Live Well Lakewood for their endorsement of this project. Members of the Commission can possibly lobby members of City Council for their support of LOBC's objectives.

- Annual Commission report to City Council:

Members of the Commission will provide an annual report briefing to the members of Lakewood City Council on June 7th. Mr. Loboizzo will work with City Council Member Nickie Antonio to allow the annual report to be a docket agenda item for the June 7th meeting. The purpose of the annual report is a collaborative undertaking of what the Commission accomplished within the previous year and what its goals and objectives are for the upcoming year.

- Summer Diversity Potluck:

The possible date for the Summer Diversity Potluck is Friday August 13th. The Summer Potluck will be held in conjunction of the Friday Night Flick, which will be held at Madison Park that evening. Further details and arrangements will be made at the July meeting.

- Next meeting:

The next meeting for the Commission will be held on Tuesday, July 13th 2010.

- Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the meeting, at approximately 7:56 p.m. Mr. Mahoney motioned the meeting adjourned, Ms. Stoltz seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory D. Mahoney, Secretary
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission