

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio  
February 7, 2011

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on February 7, 2011.

Attending the meeting were the following members of the Commission: Greg Mahoney, April Stoltz, Paula Maeder Connor, Nadhal Eadah, Barbara Schwartz, Joe Lobozzo, Gayle Wellman, Malik Moore, Carla Williams, Nahida Farunia. Mayor Michael Summers and Melissa Garrett from the Office of Community Relations for the City of Lakewood were also in attendance. Bryan Ginley and Karen Kuramoto were also present as resident attendees to the meeting. Notice having been duly given and a quorum being present, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. local time.

- NEW MAYOR INTRODUCES HIMSELF TO THE COMMISSION:

Mayor Michael Summers attended the meeting to introduce himself to the Commission to outline his expectations and mission for the group. The Mayor wants to develop a strong working relationship with the Commission. The Mayor found and distributed old files from the Mayors Office from a 1993 discussion on youth, similar to what the Commission will be embarking on February 16<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor made a suggestion that the Commission can undertake a new project from new U.S. census data to determine what Lakewood's needs are based on emerging age groups.

- DIVERSITY POTLUCK RECAP:

The Potluck that was held on January 27<sup>th</sup> was a total success. The Potluck served as a good opportunity to advertise for the upcoming Youth Conversation. Thank you posters were distributed to the businesses that donated goods that ensured success for the evening. Mr. Mahoney wrote a column that was published in the February 7, 2011 edition of the Lakewood Observer. State Representative Nickie Antonio sent a letter of congratulations to the Commission on the Success of the Potluck.

- YOUTH CONVERSATION

Mr. Eadah illustrated the sequence of events and format for the evening. The Youth Conversation will be held on February 16<sup>th</sup> 2100 from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Water shall be provided for the students serving as panelists. Rev. Maeder Connor will provide a veggie tray and all Commission Members will provide one dozen cookies as refreshments for the event. Mr. Eadah and Mr. Lobozzo have been spending

time rehearsing with the students. Ms. Garrett will send out a city E-News blast about the event. Ads have been posted in various community hot spot locations and groups. Mr. Eadah will work with the Lakewood Schools PTA to advertise.

- IDILING

Mr. Mahoney provided a status report on the idling public education campaign in regards to LCO § 56-09. The shared responsibility plan was amended and approved by the commission at the January meeting. The plan was submitted to City Council. City Council received and filed the shared responsibility plan as a docket item. It was unanimously agreed by all City Council Members that the plan would be submitted to council's rules and ordinances committee for further discussion.

- KASEY GREER:

Kasey Greer, the Executive Director of the Heights Community Congress was not able to attend this meeting of the Commission. Mr. Loboizzo has been in constant contact with Ms. Greer to collaborate on future activities the commission sponsors. Ms. Greer will be invited to the March meeting.

- RAD TRIP TO DC

The Lakewood High School RAD (Race and Diversity) student organization was invited back to the White House for their annual concert series. 10 students from the RAD organization will be attending. Mr. Loboizzo reported that Lakewood City Schools paid for the flight. Students will also help pay for the costs. Other fundraising opportunities are currently being sought.

- VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Summers took the following actions in terms of appointments to the Commission: re-appointed was Ms. Williams, Ms. Farunia and Rev. Maeder Connor. Mr. Malik Moore was also appointed to serve on the Commission. Ward 3 Councilperson Shawn Juris re-appointed Mr. Loboizzo to a full term. The Commission currently stands two members short with the one more Mayoral appointment and an appointment from At-Large City Councilperson Ryan Nowlin. At-Large City Councilperson Monique Smith has expressed interest in becoming the Commission's new City Council liaison.

- OFFICER ELECTIONS

Members of the Commission unanimously elected Ms. Stoltz Chairperson and Rev. Maeder Connor Vice Chair. Mr. Mahoney was unanimously re-elected Secretary.

- LAKEWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE

Guest attendee Mr. Ginley passed out flyers for the Church Exchange Program.

- INTRODUCTIONS

For the benefit of Mr. Moore and the guest attendees to the Commission, introductions of personnel were conducted.

- CITY CENTER PARK WORKSHOP

Mr. Eadah had reported that Dru Siley, Interim Planning and Development Director for the City of Lakewood will be hosting a workshop on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Planning and Development office at City Hall to discuss the usage issues pertaining to the City Center Park. Mr. Eadah has brainstormed an idea to establish a cultural feeling/image for the park along with incorporating the City's history as part of the concept.

- NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Commission will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2011.

- Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the meeting, at approximately 7:55 p.m. the meeting was motioned adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gregory D. Mahoney, Secretary  
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission