

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio  
July 12, 2011

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on July 12, 2011.

Attending the meeting were the following members of the Commission: Greg Mahoney, April Stoltz, Gayle Wellman, Paula Maeder Connor, Barbara Schwartz, Dan Saracina, Malik Moore, Nadhal Eadah, Veronica Youngblood and Karen Kuramoto. Lakewood City Councilperson Monique Smith and Lakewood resident Bryce Sylvester were 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.

A reading and disposal of the amended June minutes was conducted.

- MODIFIED NEW RESIDENT PACKETS:

Ms. Kuramoto made a presentation in regards to the new Lakewood Resident welcoming packets that new homeowners receive. It was noted that some of the popular items include the Mayor's welcome letter and important phone numbers to city agencies. Some additional items residents would like to see in the new resident packets include information for LEAF and the Lakewood Animal Shelter. People would also like to see coupons for local merchants in the packets as well. The members of the Commission would like to target new renters to the community that is comprised of 55% of Lakewood's population. The possibilities to accomplish this outreach effort include partnering with the block clubs, and the library. Thus, the members of the commission decided to create a new resident packet sub-committee. This sub-committee will include the following commission members: Ms. Kuramoto, Ms. Youngblood, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Wellman, Ms. Stoltz, Rev. Maeder Connor and Ms. Williams.

- WELCOMING PARTY FOR NEW RESIDENTS:

The proposed date to have the Welcome to Lakewood event is Monday November 14<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 pm at the City Hall Auditorium. Desserts and refreshments will be included. A sub-committee consisting of Mr. Moore, Rev. Maeder Connor, Mr. Eadah, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Stoltz and Mr. Saracina has been established.

- DIVERSITY POTLUCK:

Is scheduled for January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in the Women's Club Pavilion at Lakewood Park, the Commission will partner with RAD on this.

- METROPOLIS SHOWING/COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS:

The metropolis showing and community conversations will be conducted on Wednesday March 21, 2012 at the City Hall Auditorium. A commission prep time will be held on Monday September 12 at Trinity Lutheran Church at 6:30 pm.

- YOUTH RECREATION SUB-COMMITTEE:

Ms. Kuramoto and Mr. Eadah discussed Wagar Park, making it an international park with soccer fields replacing the tennis courts. Open gyms are beginning to be held at Harding and Garfield Middle Schools.

- ANNUAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL:

Rev. Maeder Connor will provide the report to Council, which will be scheduled for the Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of City Council.

- BRYCE SYLVESTER:

Mr. Bryce Sylvester, a Lakewood resident, stopped into the meeting to introduce himself. Mr. Sylvester is an intern at the Cleveland Foundation working with Lakewood Alive. Mr. Sylvester is a master's student in Urban Planning at Cleveland State University.

A get well card was signed for Commission Member Nahida Farunia who is on Medical Leave of Absence from the Commission.

Commission Member, Ms. Youngblood was interviewed in this year's upcoming edition of Lakewood Magazine.

- NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Commission will be held on Tuesday, August 9, 2011.

- Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the meeting, at approximately 8:10 p.m. the meeting was motioned adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gregory D. Mahoney, Secretary  
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission