

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio
June 14, 2011

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on June 14, 2011.

Attending the meeting were the following members of the Commission: Greg Mahoney, April Stoltz, Joe Lobo, Gayle Wellman, Paula Maeder Connor, Barbara Schwartz and Karen Kuramoto. 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.

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

The primary objective for the Commission's June meeting was to brainstorm the Commission's goals and objectives for the upcoming calendar year.

- WELCOMING PARTY FOR NEW RESIDENTS:

The Commission is in talks about conducting a welcoming party for those who are new to Lakewood. The targeted date to conduct this party would be early to mid November 2011 with dates such as Wednesday November 9th or 16th. The commission is in discussion with forming a network of partners to successfully carry out the proposed event such as the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, Block Clubs, Lakewood Ministerial Association, and the Schools. This proposed opportunity would be a good way to reach out to our new neighbors and give them an inside look to how the new residents can get involved with civic affairs and provide information such as the City's welcoming packet that is currently distributed to new homebuyers.

- ETHNIC TASTE OF LAKEWOOD:

The ethnic taste of Lakewood may not occur this year due to commitments from the idea and initiative leader Councilwoman Monique Smith. Ms. Kuramoto came up with an idea such as an ethnic snack fest that could be held in the after school hours which serve as down sales volume times in the food service industry. It was discussed to rotate such an event around Lakewood's pocket parks on an annual basis. Another aspect of the discussion is possibly partnering with the Madison Avenue Merchants Association.

- NEXT YEARS POTLUCK:

Late January, first choice of hosting the event is Thursday January 19th, 2012 with an alternate date of Wednesday June 18th. This event that serves as one of the highlighted and well-attended events for the Commission every year will be held at the Lakewood Park Women's Club Pavilion.

- METROPOLIS SHOWING/COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS:

Mid March, possible showing date. The showing will occur on either Wednesday March 14th, 28th or 21st in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Possibly partner with Heights Community Congress and the Idea Center on this event. Mayor Summers approved the \$300.00 one-time copyright showing fee that needs to be paid in order to show it.

- YOUTH RECREATION SUB-COMMITTEE:

The Lakewood City School District and Greater Cleveland YMCA are negotiating a non compete memorandum of understanding to establish a working partnership to better facilitate and provide recreational opportunities for the youth. Rec center proposal may not occur due to liabilities issues.

- ANTI- IDLING

Mr. Mahoney had reported that on Thursday May 19th, the Council's Rules and Ordinances committee gave an endorsement of our plan that we had submitted to council earlier this year. This endorsement was included in an oral report at the June 6th regular meeting of City Council giving the green light for the us and the administration to proceed with the plan. It has been suggested to re-engage the Anti Idling Sub – Committee to further work with the Administration in carrying out its initiatives.

- ANNUAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL:

The annual report to City Council is a comprehensive message to City Council in terms of what work the Commission has done and what the Commission is planning to do in the upcoming calendar year. Rev. Mader Connor will provide the report to Council, which will be scheduled for the Monday, July 18th regular meeting of City Council.

- NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Commission will be held on Tuesday, July 12, 2011.

- Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the meeting, at approximately 8:03 p.m. the meeting was motioned adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory D. Mahoney, Secretary
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission