

City of Lakewood, Ohio

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Held: City Hall, Lakewood, Ohio
November 8, 2011

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Community Relations Advisory Commission (the "Commission") was held on November 8, 2011.

Attending the meeting were the following members of the Commission: Greg Mahoney, April Stoltz, Malik Moore, Paula Maeder Connor, Barbara Schwartz, Nadhal Eadah, Gayle Wellman, Carla Williams and Karen Kuramoto. City of Lakewood Community Relations Specialist Melissa Garrett and Lakewood City Councilperson Monique Smith 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.

Reading and disposal of the minutes from the October meeting will be tabled until the December meeting due to the lack of quorum at the beginning of this meeting.

- ANTI- IDLING UPDATE:

Mr. Mahoney reported that work is ongoing with NOACA in regards to retrieving extra materials; resources and advice on how the Anti Idling Sub Committee can better execute its plan of action.

- DIVERSITY POTLUCK:

Ms. Kuramoto recommended that the commission shall contact some of the ESL (English as a second language) programs that are housed in Lakewood's school buildings. Harrison Elementary School has the highest enrolled ESL program in the district. It was suggested that Lakewood High School RAD organization should be involved as well. Like last years event, a musical blessing shall be conducted at the beginning of the event. An icebreaker game will be included with the sequence of events during the evening. Ms. Garrett distributed draft advertisements for the event. The city will undertake the task of advertising the event through the city e-news blast and water bill stuffers. This method of advertising shall also be utilized for the New Metropolis event that is to be held in March. In retrospect to food arrangements, Members of the Commission will be responsible for locating vendors to receive food donations from. The following Members of the Commission will be responsible for inquiring their assigned business; Mr. Moore will contact Souper Market, India Market and Khkl Kitchen. Ms. Kuramoto will contact Vietnamese Restarants, Babas Kitchen, La Plaza Supermarkets Bakery Department. Rev. Maeder Connor will contact 56 West, Hotspot and members of her congregation at Trinity Lutheran Church. Ms. Williams will contact Cozumel, Around the Corner and Natures Bin. Mr. Mahoney will contact Two Dads Diner.

- WELCOME TO LAKEWOOD EVENT:

Ways and means for invites and identifying our new residents were discussed, ie: new taxpayer registrations through the city income tax department. Discussion was also conducted whether the proposed venue for the evening shall be changed from the Women's Club pavilion. The Welcome to Lakewood event sub-committee shall further research possible venue change. A list of organizations to partner with to carry out a successful event was discussed. Possible partners include; Beck Center, Cleveland Art Foundation, Lakewood is Art, Leashed Dogs in Lakewood Parks organization, Citizens committee for a Lakewood Animal Shelter, Crossfit, YMCA, Lakewood Historical Society, Eco Lakewood, LEAF, Library, Lakewood City Schools, Gay Lesbian organizations, City of Lakewood, Block Clubs, Rotary, Kiwanis, Asian Services Inc.

New Business:

It has been reported that Luma Mufleh, author of Outcast United will reschedule her appearance to December 6th at Garfield Middle School. The commission still intends to have a promotional table set up at the event. The commission needs to determine if Christine Gordillo, Public Relations Representative with the Lakewood City Schools will write a Lakewood Observer article about the event, if not Mr. Loboizzo will assume the task. The commission also needs to determine if Sun Newspapers can write a promotional story for this event as well. This event shall also be promoted to the Lakewood City School's PTA's and Parochial Schools.

- NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Commission will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2011.

- Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the meeting, at approximately 8:04 p.m. the meeting was motioned adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory D. Mahoney, Secretary
Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission