

LCRAC Meeting
Thursday, January 9, 2020
At City Hall, East Conference Room, 6:30 pm

Present: Jon Gromek, Ella Sutcliffe, Walter Wright, Rachel Donaldson, Lise Stevens, Tracey Greenberg, Gwendolyn Holden-Seckers, Gary Rick and Melissa Garrett.

Absent: Robin Beavers, Tariq Atta

Walter Wright opened the meeting at 6:35 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from December's meeting approved. Motioned by Jon Gromek and seconded by Rachel Donaldson.

Status of 2019 Report to City Council

Gary Rick reviewed the minutes from the past year and handed out a sheet with the key accomplishments. Since this report will not be presented until March most likely, Walter suggested we take the time to consider what our suggestions will be as a future chart of work for our February 13 meeting. Here is the scope of our activity in 2019.

- At the request of the Mayor, helped oversee along with Melissa Garrett the development and subsequent approval of **Lakewood Youth Council**
- Hosted the **Diversity Potluck Dinner** in January. About 50 persons attended. Had table discussions surround our individual heritages
- New members appointed to Commission: **Robin Beavers, Walter Wright, Anastasia Loeges, Tracy Greenberg, Lise Stevens and Jon Gromek, Gwendolyn Holden-Seckers**
- Andrew Morris, Gabrielle Jackson, Jessica Sloan
- Hosted Lakewood Community Forum **"Civil Discourse and Mindfulness"**
- Hosted **Welcome to Lakewood**
- Hosted Lakewood Community Forum **"Transportation in the 21st Century"**

Open Seats on the Commission

We have three appointments currently open:

- Mayoral appointment to fill Chitra's position
- City Council Member Jason Shachner has an appointment open
- Dan O'Malley has an appointment open to replace Gabriella

Mayor George Sworn in on January 1st

The Commission would like to welcome the new Mayor and we look forward to working with her. Walter and the LCRAC want to give kudos to Melissa Garrett for her outstanding work with our commission and the creation of the new Youth Council.

Welcome new LCRAC Officers

Welcome to Tracey Greenberg, Vice Chair and Gary Rick, Secretary!

Diversity Potluck, Thursday, January 23rd, 6-8 pm

As in the past, the Diversity Potluck will be held at the Women's Pavillion at Lakewood Park. Jon Gromek is heading up this year's effort and he reported that Chitra Walker, although not on the Commission any longer has still helped secure food for the event. She will also provide the posters for us to create the thank you cards to those who donate to the event. So far, we have commitments from Sweet Design Chocolates, India Gardens, Alladins and Tommy's. There were also a number of other vendors connected. Not all are stated here. Gary also connected with Angelos and they will be donating again. There was discussion of a number of other vendors. All of this information will go through Jon.

Promotion of the event

- Jon thanked Stacy for setting up the Facebook event.
- Melissa will invite the Youth Council Members
- There will be an announcement in the schools on Friday
- Melissa handed out additional printed fliers for everyone to take
- Lise will see if DrugMart in the west of Lakewood will donate.

Other notes

- Walter will bring a large water dispenser so we do not have to buy bottles
- Gwen volunteered to make center pieces for the tables
- Gary volunteered to get world maps for each of the tables, possibly to color
- Stacy also has a string of flags to bring
- We talked about questions for the tables and Jon is going to see if Chitra has that information
- Melissa will invite Mayor George to attend and offer a few words. There was also discussion about John Litten or one of the other council members speaking if she cannot.

Lakewood Youth Council

- Melissa reported that all applicants have been notified whether they were selected or not.
- There are 15 total youth on the council
- First meeting on Wednesday, January 22
- They will meet in the East Conference Room
- Focus on youth-related issues
- Melissa and/or Gary will continue to be in attendance for all of the meetings as liaison to our commission

Mission and Individual Member Goal

Walter asked each commission member to consider something to work on in 2020 and beyond:

Walter	Racial Equity Training
Jon	Voting registration
Lise	Awareness of many programs available to residents
Stacy	Refugees

Gwendolyn	Diversity
Gary	Discussion around Social media and respect between those who post comments
Tracy	Removing barriers to transportation, especially relating to disabled individuals
Rachel	How can we get more diverse groups involved in events and on the commission

City-wide Accessibility Audit

Tracey sent a letter to the new Mayor about conducting an audit on barriers city-wide to transportation. These regulations have been around for a long time but nobody seems to be doing anything about them. All disability housing in Lakewood is currently for seniors only according to the Stacey.

2020 Census

Melissa did not have additional information to report at this time. They are shooting for a meeting next week once the Mayor gets more settled. We want to focus on the hard to count neighborhoods.

Motion to adjourn at 7:40 pm

Motion by Jon and seconded by Lise.

Next meeting, Thursday, February 13 at 6:30 pm