

## **Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission**

October 12, 2017 Meeting

12650 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, OH, 6:30 PM

In attendance (members): Barbara Howell, Gary Rick, Chitra Walker, Rachel Donaldson, Jessica Sloan, Gabrielle, Eric Meinhardt, Bernadette Elston, Tariq Snoper, Gabrielle Jackson, Melissa Garrett (Community Relations Specialist), Cindy Marx (City County Liaison), Sam Gantous (new member), Ahmed (last name unknown) (visitor), Liz Mazur (visitor),

New Member and visitor welcome

Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2017 unanimously approved (those not in attendance abstained)

Letter to Family on Belle Avenue: Rachel confirmed that the Mayor approved the letter to the family and it was sent to the family on behalf of the Commission

### **Meeting with Mayor Summers**

Jessica gave a summary of the September 14, 2017 meeting she and Rachel had with Mayor Summers to discuss the incident at the Madison branch library. Jessica relayed that they discussed the Commission's desire to obtain further education about police training policies and procedures in order to better advise the City. The Mayor was receptive to getting the Commission involved in comparable matters in the future.

LCRAC discussing having the their next meeting with the Mayor and Chief Malley to obtain further education as noted above. Tentative date for next meeting with the Mayor and Police Chief: November 16, 2017.

### **Community Conversation**

Potential format of Community Conversation

4-5 panel members

Mayor, Police Chief, local business owner

Eric attended a community policing event with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health – that person may be interested

Potential Date for the Community Conversation: March 8, 2017 (or another date in March) – Melissa will check availability of the Auditorium and we will check into availability at library, school, and local churches

Chair of the Public Safety Committee: Dan O'Malley – we will reach out to him as well

Planning Committee: Bernadette, Gabrielle

**Welcome to Lakewood**

Event set for October 18, 2017 from 6:30-8:30 PM. Committee comprised of Chitra, Gary, and Rachel made and confirmed details. Chitra has secured donations. Rachel has disseminated fliers. Jessica has done social media.

**Donation Pickup Assignments:**

- Drug Mart – Gary
- Rachel – Elmwood and Breadsmith
- Jessica – Aladdin’s and Root Café
- Chitra – India Garden and Sweet Deigns
- Tariq – bringing Baklava

Chitra to call the Monday before the events to secure times for pickup – 6 PM pickup except for Rachel’s locations

**Other Planning Activities:**

- Advertising completed via social media, City created a Facebook event - request for members to RSVP; advertising in the water bill; 500 post cards sent to 500 new local homeowners
- Fliers at Local Business – Bernadette and Rachel distributed, Rachel at local business and Bernadette at local apartment buildings; members request to take fliers Melissa printed and disseminate throughout the community
- Decorations: H20 doing posters and YMCA program doing posters
- Entertainment: Bernadette’s son Jason is going to do volunteer to do balloon animals again
- Music: we will try out sound system this year
- Parking: Middle School parking lot and Church of the Ascension; helpers at Garfield Middle School will help direct parking
- Vendors: we currently have 26 vendors set to attend the event; vendors are asked to set up and move cars to Church parking lot; request for members to reach out to contacts at organizations that attended last year but have not committed

**YMCA Video “Us”**

Gary brought a YMCA video the Commission’s attention that promote the diversity in the YMCA. Want to use it as a way to promote the diversity within Lakewood.

**Diversity Potluck**

Date confirmed for January 18, 2018

Rachel/Jessica to create a list of businesses to contact for donations

Will begin advertising in December

**Next Meetings**

November 16, 2017 (waiting on confirmation)

December 14, 2017 (meeting will be followed by a holiday party)

**Other Meetings of Interest**

Public Safety Hearing – October 16, 2017 at 5:45 PM  
Chitra plans to attend

Jessica shared that Lakewood Women’s Club Fall Fundraiser event – a photo book at the Spooky Pooch parade on October 21, 2017

Gary will be part of a panel meeting to discuss the parameters to make Lakewood the “Healthiest City”

Meeting is on October 20, 2017 at 12 PM at Brennan’s