HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

January 2012 at 4:30 pm Council Chambers

PRESENT	ABSENT
Gil Palmer	John Roberts
Greg Lewis	Shiva Rallapalli
lan Kohen	Rosalind Pegram
John Stroh	Rhea Baker-Ipek
Trena Carter	Tony McClendon

No Quorum

STAFF PRESENT:

Director Lorraine Smith, Deputy Director Frances Jordan and Secretary Betsy Schuette

GUESTS:

Kelly Benjamin, City Attorney, Tim Shuffett, City Council Liaison, Dr. Kevin Jones, Assistant Professor of Management in the Business Division at IUPUC

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Minutes were not approved. No Quorum

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Carter reported \$5,927.70 in the Donations Account and \$1,497.02 in the Non-Reverting Fund for a total of \$7,424.72. The Heritage Fund Grant which covers the expenses for the 'Adventures in DiversCity' has a balance of \$3,040.40.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Commissioner Palmer reported the events of Martin Luther King day starting with the MLK breakfast at East High School where Director Lorraine Smith was the keynote speaker. Positive feedback was given about Director Smith's presentation. The events all went very well and had a great turn out. Chairperson Palmer attended the Panel Discussion at IUPUC and was impressed how they collectively paused to hear President Obama's Inauguration.

Chairperson Palmer was encouraged by a showing of Mohammad at Yes Cinema. It was enlightening to the Islamic Faith and suggested others viewing it if possible. It is available to view on YouTube.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

In addition to her written report, Director Smith provided an overview of Commission activities. Director Lorraine Smith reported that the office has been very busy. Director Smith stated that this is a positive result of people seeking assistance from the Human Rights Commission resulting from our outreach efforts.

CASEWORK

Deputy Director Smith provided the Commissioners with an update on casework as well as other work within the department such as:

- 3-Intakes (2 National Origin in Housing, Disability in employment)
- 1-Filing HUD (National Origin in Housing)
- 1-Filing EEOC (Association with person with a disability)
- 1-Filing U.S. Dept. of Labor FMLA Complaint
- 1-Possible Mediations in process via EEOC

COMMISSION

- Heritage Fund Outreach Committee Meeting: Director Smith had two meetings regarding the Committee. She is currently in the process of drafting a framework to outline the committee's goals and areas of work for 2013. The potential work include:
 - Continuing exploration of a Community Portal
 - Exploration of a Multi-cultural Center
 - Committee connection to the Grants committee regarding RFP's on areas of work such as vibrant neighborhoods, self-sufficiency.
 - o Downtown business entrepreneurship from a Welcoming Community perspective

OFFICE:

• Director Smith and Deputy Director Jordan continue to attend Monthly Mayor's Staff and Weekly Board of Works Meetings.

ANNUAL DINNER:

- Deputy Director Jordan has distributed the Essay/Art Contests through our networks.
- Laws Award Press Release has gone out.
- The 'SAVE THE DATE' notice has been crafted and has been distributed

MAYORS ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DISABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY (MACDA)

The members will select its Executive Committee at its next meeting on February 4th.

ADA TRANSITION PLAN:

• Frances is awaiting feedback from Human Resources in regard to the plan so that it can be presented to the Board of Works for Approval.

ADVENTURES IN DIVERSITY:

Update: The core planning group met January to plan the final phase of the program and to reinvigorate participants. The group agreed on the following strategy:

- Send out personalized emails or calls to participants. Participants who have responded via email, will receive personalized emails, while the remaining will receive calls to energize participants
 - a. Create script for the email (1 -3 paragraphs), and for the calls
 - i. Encourage them to be involved
 - ii. Goals/range of events
 - iii. Emphasize prize and ipad
 - iv. Reminder to fill out forms and we will ask them if they attended events even though they didn't fill out evaluation forms
 - b. Plan out final meeting Discuss at March meeting
 - i. Caterer **SAVE THE DATE** March 14 5:30 -7:30
 - c. Report Draft Heritage Fund
 - d. Follow- up meeting MARCH

OTHER ACTIVITIES - NETWORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY/EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY:

- MLK Breakfast/Activities
 - Director Smith was the keynote speaker at the MLK Breakfast
 - Deputy Director Jordan participated as part of a panel discussion on the impact of President Obama's election
 - Director Smith and Deputy Director Jordan attended the evening panel discussion from a group of young African Americans regarding the impact of President Obama's election and his policies as they relate to African Americans
- CAMEO Retreat:
 - Director Smith helped facilitate CAMEO's Strategic Planning Retreat. New officers were elected. Rocio Rodriquez is the new Chair.
- Audit and Review Committee
 - Deputy Director Jordan and Chairperson Gil Palmer attended the Audit and Review Committee in January.
- Oral History Project/IUPUC WC II Grant: Emails have been sent to potential interviewees.
 Interviews are slated to begin the third week of February. Director Smith invited Marie Schroeder to

come aboard to help with the process in terms of providing interview tips for the interviewers. Director Smith will be setting up an orientation with interviewers in the next week or two.

- Deputy Director Frances Jordan continues to network with the community by attending the following meetings:
 - AA Lunch Meeting with the Mayor:
 - Bartholomew Consolidated School Foundation:
 - o CYP Strategic Planning Meeting:

CITY HALL

- Mayor's Strategic Plan Committee:
 - The Mayor is meeting with all Department Heads to review each department's strategic plan to make sure each is on the same page. Director Smith is scheduled to meet with the Mayor on Friday, February 1st.

UPCOMING:

 Mayor's Advisory Council on Disability and Accessibility meeting, February 4, 2013 - 2:00 PM, Cal Brand Room, City Hall

Eyes on the Prize: "No Easy Walk" presented by the Cummins African and African American Affinity Group (AAAAG) -A documentary about contributions the March on Washington made to the civil rights movement.

Date and Time: 6 P.M. Monday, February 4 (Doors open at 5:30; event begins at 6)

Where: YES Cinema, Columbus

LIAISON REPORT:

Greg has a conflict attending the CAMEO meetings with Dance Marathon. Deputy Director Jordan attends the meetings and reported a Sustained Dialog speaking on issues that affect Columbus choosing poverty.

OPEN FORUM:

Dr. Kevin Jones expressed his encouragement to know there is so much going on in the community and opportunities to participate. Also his intent to continue attending the Human Rights Commission meetings.

FOR ACTION:

No Quorum.

ADJOURNMENT:

There was no quorum