

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2017 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

The meeting began at 7:05 p.m.

Members present were: Rick Ransom, Jamie Krauk, Sherry Burks, Dea Zugby, Dan Hamlin, Findley Holland and David Moran, Staff Liaison.

Also present were: Bill Orleans

Welcome & Introductions

Rick welcomed everyone. Rick read the Community Pledge.

Approval of Minutes

Dan moved approval of the Minutes from the meeting on 10/3/17. Jamie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Referral – 13th Amendment/Freedom Day Holiday Report

Rick read a Wikipedia page on Juneteenth. Dan suggested the addition of (“Juneteenth”) to the discussion and recommendation sections.

Jamie suggested paring down the list of suggestions in the report and/or providing some more specifics.

Dan suggested the Proclamation at a minimum. CRAB reviewed each of the items on the list and made edits to the list.

CRAB agreed to the following:

- Proclamation
- Athletic Event like a 3-5K run walk that could end at Turner Cemetery
- A public reading of the 13th Amendment
- Community Picnic or Pot Luck that rotates throughout the community,
- A list of other activities (sporting events, performances [dance, music, talent show, etc.] craft fair, fashion show) that could be held by the City or other community groups.

David agreed to reformat the “Recommendation” section of the report and send a revised copy to CRAB for further review.

Planning for the Youth Forum

CRAB noted that if a date can't be confirmed within the next few days then the forum should be scheduled next year. CRAB discussed working an interim report to Council based on the feedback obtained at the forums.

Rick still wanted to contact the family that brought forward the initial complaint and meet with them to hear directly about their experience.

Jamie viewed the forums as initial listening sessions, but she didn't want to draw any conclusions and was a long way from that point.

Dea relayed the incident that occurred to her son-in-law (Billy) in Greenbelt last year where he was placed in handcuffs for an hour. She believed these kinds of incidents occurred in Greenbelt. Dan asked if Billy would come to CRAB and relay his story. Dea also relayed a personal story that happened to her.

Sherry relayed a posting on Facebook story about Bike Night at Friday's which was moved to Willie K's. The story indicated that the Greenbelt Police Department had encouraged Willie K's not to hold this event.

Bill suggested that there had been discussion about some type of accountability or review panel for the Police.

Dan suggested there may need to be a citizen panel that reviews Police incidents/complaints. He noted that his grandson gets a different lecture about how to interact with Police than he did when he was a kid.

Sherry relayed her experience in Ocean City with a good friend (who was white) where they both applied for summer jobs. The friend got all the job offers and Sherry didn't get an offer.

Bill reported on a recent meeting that the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) held regarding the referendum question on 16 year old voting. He encouraged YAC to advocate for the question at the polls on Election Day. Bill also expressed concern about a poorly worded question on the Community Questionnaire and suggested that CRAB may wish to review the questionnaire prior to publication.

Next Meeting

CRAB scheduled the next meeting for November 21 at 7:00pm in the Schrom Hills Park meeting room.

The meeting ended at 8:40 pm.