

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD METING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2016, IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL ROOM.

The meeting began at 7:35 p.m.

Members present were: Rick Ransom, Dea Zugby, Kevin Hammett, Daniel Hamlin, Ray Raysor, Janet Jacobs Parker, Sherry Burks and David Moran, Staff Liaison.

Other City Officials present were: and Captain Tom Kemp.

Also present were: Michael Hartman, Andre & Owen Thompson, Lois Rosado, Bob Rand, Katie Pugliese, Carolyn Lambright-Davis and Lowell Owens.

Welcome & Introductions

Rick welcomed everyone. There were introductions. Rick stated that CRAB had a new member, and introduced Reverend Ray Raysor.

Council Referral – Forum/Community Discussion

Sherry read the Community Pledge. Rick summarized the referral. He noted that a subcommittee had met with two potential facilitators. Dan provided a quick summary of the two interview sessions that the CRAB subcommittee held with Michael Lyles and Dr. Kris Marsh. He stated that both would be excellent, but noted Dr. Marsh's Fulbright Award starting in January.

Katie suggested that we schedule the youth session before the end of the year. Michael Hartman suggested that a citizen participate in the facilitator interview.

Rick concurred with Dan that both facilitators would do a good job. Dea indicated that Dr. Marsh was incredibly dynamic.

Sherry was comfortable using Dr. Marsh and suggested we try and schedule the first youth forum. Andre noted that Dr. Marsh's departure might be problematic for the youth after she has gained their trust. Michael suggested a forum before Thanksgiving and one in early December.

Rick suggested picking a date for the first forum as well as a planning meeting with Dr. Marsh. Lois suggested meeting with Dr. Marsh in the next two weeks. Michael suggested that middle school kids be included as well as high school.

Tom offered to serve as a resource and work towards any improvements. He stated that the Police Department can perform whatever role CRAB desires.

Dan suggested contacting Professor Marsh and her associate to determine their availability in the next week or two. He suggested inviting the Alliance to participate.

Ray suggested we meet with Professor Marsh's colleague as well.

Lois suggested using the Middle School as the location for the Forum.

David suggested getting information from the school on school calendar, activities schedule, etc.

Lois noted organizing youth was different than with adults. Dan noted Dr. Marsh had suggested role playing. Michael suggested a format which provided a safe environment so the youth could talk freely,

Ray asked about forum length. Lois, Rick and Dan all commented that 90 minutes should be the maximum length.

Dan asked about contacting other groups. Michael suggested the deaf community and suggested contacting Alice Mitchell. Michael suggested the blind community. Ray agreed to relay to the blind community and the NAACP. Bob suggested the Peace & Justice Group (Lucy or Donna). Michael suggested Delegate Alonzo Washington. Lowell suggested the Paint Branch Unitarian social action committee and agreed to provide a contact.

Katie suggested inviting the student government organization at the school to participate.

Sherry suggested we contact Dr. Marsh and ascertain her availability.

Kevin suggested reaching out to the Youth Advisory Committee to determine best times.

Ray suggested trying for something in the school day. David agreed to pursue all options.

Janet asked how you reach middle school kids. Tom responded face time with kids getting to know them as people.

There was consensus to reach out to Dr. Marsh and determine her availability for a planning meeting, forums and about school availability, best time for participation, etc.

Dan suggested inviting Council to listen but not speak and make this rule public. Tom offered to be a resource, but also understood there may be a need for anonymity.

The meeting ended at 8:50pm.