



Name: Aurora African American Heritage Advisory Board
Date: February 09, 2023
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: Aurora City Hall – 44 E. Downer Place Aurora, IL
Mayor's Office - 3rd Floor

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:31 pm by Chair Whitfield.
- II. Roll Call Present: Glenda Blakemore, Marc Dale, Deborah Goss-Johnson, Sandra Harrison, Pairlee Hunter, Cynthia Latimer, Vice Chair Sharonda Roberson, Dr. Yolanda Stovall, Chair William Whitfield, & Keith Wise. City Liaison Muhammad was also present.
Absent: Marquell Oliver, 10 present 1 absent
- III. Public Comments - None
- IV. Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2023 - Moved by Blakemore, seconded by Harrison to approve the January meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Pillar Objectives to obtain the overarching AAHAB goal of Advocacy (Pillars: Awareness / Communication / Fundraising)

- V. City Liaison Update: Standing item Financial Report & Additional Topics - Oral Report by Liaison Muhammad. Budget update after payments from Pageant and Heritage Dinner are finalized. Additional information covered under specific agenda items.
- VI. Unfinished Business
 - A. AAHAB Heritage Dinner Committee – February 24, 2023 - Committee Chair Latimer - General comments re: status of Heritage Dinner components including the budget and thanks and appreciation to the committee.
 - i. Sponsorships / Tickets Update / Awardees - Liaison Muhammad shared:
Sponsorship Information - to date two Presenting Platinum sponsors (Ald. Scheketa Hart-Burns & KWCC Inc./Construction), one Gold Sponsor - (Comcast - Laptop for every scholarship recipient), three Silver Sponsor/Scholarships - (Ald. Emmanuel Llamas, Rush Copley, Loop Financial), Multiple Table sponsors
Ticket Sales - Close to being sold out.
Awardees - Dr. Jennifer Norrell - Leader of the Year, Servant Rayford - Lifetime Achievement Award, Katrina Boatright - NIA Award, David Smith - NIA Award
Special Guest - The legendary Dr. Charles Ponquinette, Retired D131 Superintendent
 - ii. AAHAB Scholarship Sub-Committee - Sub-Committee Chair Blakemore - Process finalized and scholarship awardees are being notified.
 - iii. Dinner Details - Committee
 - a) Seating - Discussion

- b) Usher Training Update - Co-Chairs - Harrison and Wise - Discussion
- c) Usher Training Document - Co-Chair Harrison - Very well done. Model for the future.
- d) Tasks / SET UP / Night of Details - Need everyone to help with set up and clean up. Right now, 3pm but we have requested noon if possible. Registration table 1: Blakemore and Hunter Registration Table 2 - Goss-Johnson & Stovall. Board attire - Black. AAHAB Kente stole provided. Be there by 5pm.

- B. Mr. & Miss Black Aurora Pageant - February 04, 2023 - Debrief - Vice Chair Roberson - Chair Whitfield asked for general comments by Board Vice Chair & Pageant Chair Roberson. He indicated that the full debrief from the Board will be at the March meeting. Roberson's general high-level comments: Overall successful event... DJ first time doing a pageant... Students needed more time and more training... Future need a stage manager. Commissioner Harrison mentioned the feedback form that was completed by the chaperones of the 100 Black Man Scholarship Fair and that may be helpful. Chair Whitfield directed Secretary Latimer to send out the form and remove the spot for name, to make the form anonymous.

VII. New Business

- A. Street Sign Dedication - Moved by Stovall; Seconded by Goss-Johnson to send a letter to the mayor's office indicating Board support of a street sign in honor of Ald. Scheketa Hart-Burns. Roll Call. Motion Passed: Unanimous.
- B. Board Member Attendance - Chair Whitfield clarified attendance rules. If a Board member has three unexcused absences they can be recommended for removal. If a Board member will be absent, they need to notify the chair, in advance of the meeting, via email, which is Wk-whitfield@wiu.edu. This notification would result in the absent Board member being excused. Zoom meeting attendance was a COVID pandemic allowance and therefore is no longer an option for attendance.
- C. Juneteenth Activities - Discussed prior city events with wrapped squad cars and the possibility of a wrapped squad for Juneteenth to be an active car and at Juneteenth events and for a total of two weeks. Discussion. Blakemore moved; Wise seconded that the Juneteenth wrapping of a police car be explored by Chair Whitfield and information brought back to the Board for consideration. Roll Call. Motion Passed: Unanimous.

- VIII. For the Good of the Board - Board Calendar - Commissioners shared upcoming events and will email information to the Board. Liaison Muhammad directed Board members to the link housing Black History events.

- IX. Next Meeting – March 09 - 5:30 pm – City Hall

- X. Adjournment - 6:36 pm

Items for Future Meetings

- Parliamentarian Robert's Rules Training
- Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley (Scholarships)