



Name: Aurora African American Heritage Advisory Board
Date: March 10, 2022
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: Aurora City Hall - 44 E. Downer Place Aurora, IL
Conference Room- 5A

MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by City Liaison Muhammad at 5:38 pm.
- II. **Roll Call:** Excused Absence: Dr. Yolanda Stovall Present: Glenda Blakemore, Marc Dale, Derek Drew, Deborah Goss-Johnson, Sandra Harrison, Chair Dr. Peggy Hicks, Pairlee Hunter, Secretary, Cynthia Latimer, Marquell Oliver, Vice Chair, Sharonda Roberson, William Whitfield, Keith Wise 12 present 1 absent

Others Present:
City Staff: Liaison, Chief Communication & Equity Officer: Clayton Muhammad
Executive Director, African American Men of Unity (AAMOU): Ricky Rodgers
- III. **Public Comments:** Ricky Rodgers - Executive Director of AAMOU and former longstanding AAAHAB member spoke about AAMOU and the 21st Annual Juneteenth Celebration to be held 6/18/22 - 3:30-7:30. Mr. Rodgers requested AAAHAB Board support.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes: Feb 10, 2022**
Moved by Blakemore, seconded by Harrison to approve the February 10th meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
- V. **Election of Officers**
 - a. The following were nominated for office at the February meeting.
 - i. Chair – Dr. Peggy Hicks
 - ii. Vice-Chair – Sharonda Roberson
 - iii. Secretary – Cynthia Latimer
 - b. Voting on the slate of officers – Ballots were distributed
 - c. Results – Slate was unanimously elected.
 - d. City Liaison turned the meeting over to newly elected Chair Dr. Hicks
- VI. **City Liaison Update**
 - a. Financial reports will be presented next month.
 - b. Thank you for support of Aurora in Black

- c. By Mayoral and City Council action, city employees will have a paid holiday for Juneteenth. Multiple events have already been scheduled:
 - i. Supporting AAMOU Juneteenth event – 6/18/22 – MLK Park
 - ii. Raising Pan African flag on Juneteenth
 - iii. Divine 9 Juneteenth Food Giveaway
- d. Scholarship – Presentation from Community Foundation re: funding opportunities will be held at an upcoming meeting
- e. Board members should have received an invitation to the Mayor’s State of the City Address – 3/16/22 – Moving Aurora Forward: The Facts & The Figures.

VII. **Status of AAAHAB Membership Positions:** All 13 filled – Welcome, Dr. Yolanda Stovall

VIII. **Member Compliance Requirement:** Open Meetings Act Training - Dr. Hicks asked if there is a list of those who have been completed. Chair Hicks asked for Mr. Muhammad to resend the link to members and asked members to complete by the next meeting.

IX. **Old Business**

X. **New Business:**

- a. Review Mission Statement – Both the vision and mission statement are listed on the website. Motion to table to the next meeting. Moved by Goss-Johnson, Seconded by Drew. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. AAAHAB Goals – Chair asked members to identify three goals that can be attained in the next couple of months. Members brainstormed ideas for goals, activities, and projects. Discussion will continue next month.
- c. Initial discussion re: Sub-committee suggestions
Members began to brainstorm ideas for sub-committees. Further discussion and identification of sub-committees at April meeting.

XI. **Future Activities and Calendar:** Tied to agenda item X.b., will discuss next meeting.

XII. **For the Good of the Board:** AAAHAB members made announcements and gave updates on items not on the agenda and which do not require a vote.

- a. AAAHAB member contact sheets were distributed
- b. Question on the status of a Black business directory and ABC (Aurora Business Communication)
- c. All cultural boards in the city are led by women – Women’s History Month Recognition at City Council March 22nd
- d. Chair and members thanked Mr. Muhammad for all that he does

XIII. **Announcements:**

- a. Celebrating Social Workers at the ALIVE Center - 78 S. LaSalle – AAAHAB member Harrison presenting on Storytelling
- b. HS Senior Scholarships – Spirited Pearls Foundation Website - \$2,500
- c. Community Resource Team meeting – Black voice needed at that table. First Friday from 9-10:30 – Virtual – Link to be sent

XIV. **Next Meeting:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 - 5:30 pm – City Hall – Conference Room 5A

XV. **Adjournment:** It was moved by Dale and seconded by Vice Chair, Roberson to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned 6:43 pm