

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACK MALES
April 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Greg Tourner, Cornelius Wright, Bev Smith, Eric Love and Cedric Harris.
Guests: Gina Benson, Bloomington community member and Rachel Gonzalez-Martin, Latino Outreach Coordinator. **Staff:** Craig Brenner, Community and Family Resources.

Approval of Minutes - March 12, 2014 Meeting Minutes - approved 5 - 0.

Mentoring Partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana

Tabled to next meeting.

Basic Business Skills

Cornelius asked about a similar event held in Indianapolis. Greg shared that many of the participants did not have a high school diploma. Bev commented that getting a G.E.D. is vitally important if the student does not have a high school diploma. Students could go to Broadview Learning Center for G.E.D. prep and testing. A component of basic business skills is having at least a G.E.D. Eric reminded the CSBM about a plan to include some IU student organizations to help with planning a session. Bev and Eric will plan to meet before the next meeting to discuss further.

Jail Conditions, Criminal Justice System and Expungement

Judge Mary Ellen Diekhoff was invited to attend the meeting but she has postponed her visit until after the Expungement law has been revised again over the summer. She is planning to attend the September meeting. Guy Loftman was also invited but unable to attend the meeting.

Fundraising

Gina asked what the money would be used for and Greg and Bev explained the purpose of fundraising to support some of the initiatives of the CSBM.

Eric suggested contacting the Revolution theatrical group to feature some of their artistry to raise funds. Bev suggested using a spoken word program with the youth to raise funds. Cornelius suggested auctioning off game balls.

Commissions similar to CSBM need to work hard to become known in the community. Craig mentioned about having a men's luncheon with Black men. It is important for young Black males to see professional Black males in the community. Bev suggested that the CSBM bring in a person who knows how to raise funds and setting up a plan for small commissions. Craig suggested that Rachel's commission could benefit from this as well. It would be good to collaborate. Also, the CSBM should look at grants and proposals. Bev suggested we invite someone from the Community Foundation to speak to us at the next meeting. Joyce Rogers would be someone to contact from the IU Foundation. Craig will invite one of them to the June meeting.

Health Screening

The Community Health and Wellness Fair will be on April 12, 2014 from 9:00am - 12:00pm at the Farmer's Market. We'll have several commission members work at the booth: 9:00am - Cornelius, 10:00am Cornelius, 11:00am David plus other commission members. The state commission requests to have anonymous data results.

Brochure Concerning Police Retaliations Proposed by Dr. McCluskey

Emily Hughes, SPEA Service Corps Fellow, created a draft of the brochure for the CSBM review entitled: Every Day Encounters with the Police.

Rachel shared about getting Latino officers and hopes to collaborate with the CSBM to reach young people and the community.

Communication with MCCSC About School Climate Issues

Diane Hanks is still scheduled to attend the May meeting. Superintendent DeMuth is scheduled to attend August meeting.

New Business

None

Announcements

Cornelius suggested getting flowers for Valerie, CSBM member, so members chipped in and Bev agreed to order them.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Next meeting is May 14, 2014 in the Kelly Conference Room #155.