

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACK MALES
Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2018
5:35 pm
Hooker Conference Room #245 City Hall
401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, IN

AGENDA

Members Present: Brian Richardson Jr., Seth Debro, John McCluskey, David Hummons, Byron Turner II.
The meeting was called at 5:35 pm Guest: Kourtney Byrd, Geoffrey Bradley, John Clower, Justin Freeman, Ernest Rollins
Staff: Rafi Khalid Hasan II, City Staff Liaison

1. Introductions

2. Request for Additional Agenda Items City Staff liaison request Geoffrey Bradley to provide a brief summary of State of the Black Community.

3. Guest remarks John Clower discussed the failure of law enforcement communities (outside of Bloomington Police Department, named: Owens, Spencer and Nashville counties). Clower requested support from the CSBM to join local coalition of groups which includes, NAACP, Universalist Unitarian Church to 1) pressure news reporting outlets to conduct a formidable in-depth journalistic investigation about the lack of reporting by law enforcement communities; 2) partner with WFIU to host a training on how to recognize white privilege; 3) to engage with Indiana legislators to advocate for sanctions against departments that fail to comply with federal reporting law. *CSBM voted and approved to join the coalition.*

4. Approval of Minutes January 10, 2018, minutes approved as amended at 6:07 pm.

5. New Business

A. Health and Wellness Initiatives for April

1. April is health and wellness month.
2. The goals for the health and wellness 2018 are to:
 - a) Work with community partners to take advantage of screenings at City of Bloomington Health Fair on Saturday, April 7 9 am – 12 pm. CSBM will table at the event. *CSBM voted and approved to table at City Health Fair*
 - b) Data collection

B. Barbershop Talk 2018

1. Commissioner Richardson indicated that the event will take place on the Thursday during the week of the IU “Little 500!” Commissioner Richardson will coordinate equipment needs for the event with Rafi Hasan. Commissioner Richardson indicated that HIV testing will not take place this year for reasons of privacy. Commissioner Richardson indicated that he will reach out to JW Barbershop on 2nd street.
2. Staff liaison commented that Blue-Cross Blue Shield would like to partner with CSBM for Health initiatives.

C. Request to recognize 2018 MCCSC graduates

1. Commissioner McCluskey drafted a letter to Monroe County Community School Corporation Superintendent Judith DeMuth. The letter seeks to publicize the names of

students of color graduating from MCCSC schools in 2018. CSBM reviewed and approved the letter, with the following addition: "You can submit the names of graduating seniors and/or direct principals to contact City of Bloomington, staff liaison Mr. Rafi Hasan by email at hasanr@bloomington.in.gov. Please direct any questions or concerns to Mr. Hasan by email or phone at 812.349.3559."

2. Staff Liaison Rafi Hasan will make changes to letter and have letter reviewed by CFRD Director.

6. Liaison report

A. READ FOR 200 updates

1. Makeup orientation session is scheduled for Saturday, February 17 11 am - 12:30 pm in McCloskey Conference Room. No refreshments will be served.

B. ACTION ITEMS (updates)

1. The CSBM will need to schedule a special meeting to have an information session with Jamie Nichols from Department of Child Welfare. Commissioner Turner will identify potential dates with Jamie Nichols and will poll commissioners for availability.
2. Commissioner McCluskey will identify Black Male Summit planning meeting dates for March and April.
3. CSBM needs to schedule financial literacy workshop. Commissioner Sanders will serve as primary facilitator. Commissioner Sanders will report at the next meeting.
4. CSBM is not in session for the June and July of 2018.
5. CSBM needs to plan a neighborhood community forum. Topics and suggestions for discussion: The N-word.

7. Old Business

A. READ FOR 200

1. City Staff liaison Rafi Hasan indicated that IU student Julian Hubbard will be working with the CSBM to record volunteer hours and assist with event coordination.

B. Bicentennial Multi-commission initiative

1. Commissioner Debro reported that committee has agreed to allow K-12 students to participate. The competition will focus on the arts, e.g. spoken word, digital media, sculpture, etc. The committee is developing a rubric for judges.

8. Action committee reports

1. Education (refer to the agenda item under old business READ FOR 200)
2. Health and Wellness (refer to the agenda item under new business health and wellness initiative)
3. Employment and Entrepreneurship (refer to the agenda item under old business financial literacy)
4. Criminal Justice
 - a) Geoffrey Bradley provided a summary of his attendance at the State of Black Community. The topics were centered on employment, housing, education and pre-trial incarceration data. Individuals who attended the State of Black Community indicated that they would like to have an annual report as well as a more in-depth research analysis. Pre-trial Release Program has data on removal and number of families impacted.

9. Announcements

10. Adjournments

A. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm