

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACK MALES
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2018
5:36 pm
Kelly Conference Room #155 City Hall
401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, IN

AGENDA

Members Present: Cornelius Wright, Brian Richardson Jr., John McCluskey Jr, James Sanders, David Hummons, Byron Turner II. The meeting was called at 5:36 pm Guests: Justin Freeman, Katie Thompson, Kourtney Byrd Staff: Rafi Khalid Hasan II, City Staff Liaison

1. Introductions

2. Request for Additional Agenda Items

Chair options to approve minutes after presentation from Thriving Connections.

3. Guest remarks

Katie Thompson Thriving Connections Coach, Katie Thompson provided literature about the program and asked for support in recruiting Black/African American “allies” for the program.

4. Approval of Minutes

March 14, 2018, minutes approved as amended at 6:10 pm.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. The “Books in Barbershops” project has obtained interest from the Bridge Leadership Foundation (Indianapolis) and the Monroe County Public Library. Staff liaison has reported making contact with the owners of Razor’s Image and Hoosier Barbershop.

B. The 2018 Health and Wellness Initiative will involve the CSBM recruiting 100 Black males to participate in a study to increase the understanding of how Black males perceive and experience their health in Bloomington. The CSBM is attempting to conduct preliminary research which may assist the IU School of Public Health in future research studies and present information at the State of the Black Community in February of 2019.

C. *The CSBM voted and unanimously approved measure* to create the Outstanding Black Woman of Tomorrow.

6. LIAISON REPORT

A. The Bloomington Human Rights Commission (BHRC) has not made an appointment to the CSBM. One candidate was interviewed during their March meeting. Kourtney Byrd indicated her interview is scheduled for April 23rd.

B. Commissioners should make efforts to contact staff liaison monthly, in addition to the monthly meeting. Meeting reminder, CSBM has a ten month schedule. The CSBM will not meeting in June or July. Reminder that commissioners should not campaign for candidates during commission programs which includes wearing merchandise that endorses a candidate.

- C. April newsletter will be available online Monday, April 16.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Commissioner Sanders reported on the Black Male Summit that took place on Saturday, April 7th in Bloomington, Indiana. Commissioner Sanders chaperoned and mentored experience with Bloomington youth.
- B. READ FOR 200 1. Volunteers have logged in 18.50 hours. 2. Community partner updates: Boys and Girls Club is planning literacy week. The Monroe County Public Library (MCPL) will participate host Story Walk on Friday, April 20th, the MCPL will also host a Spoken Word event for READ FOR 200 Volunteers from 12pm to 4pm and MCPL will kick off Summer Reading Program with libraries rock on May 25. The Banneker is hosting an Open House on June 1. We have 53 Volunteers and 20 volunteers who have completed the orientation, background check and availability form. 4. Shirts are available.
- C. Bias-Law reporting by law enforcement communities outside of City of Bloomington. No information to report at this time. John Clower was contacted prior to the meeting an informed to maintain contact with Commissioner Wright.
- D. Health and Wellness 2018
 - 1. City of Bloomington Health and Wellness Fair 2018, April 7 9am – 12pm. Commissioners Richardson, Turner, and Wright were in attendance and read to youth.
 - 2. Black Barbershop Talk 2018: Commissioner Richardson reported that Barbershop talk will take place on Thursday, April 19 from 9am – 3pm at Hoosier Barbershop. Commissioner Richardson has confirmed Muhammad Saahir from IU CAPS, Osmon Chiropractic Center, Anthem Medicaid, Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Centerstone will not attend the event this year, Commissioner Richardson will reach out to Kira Richardson. Commissioner Richardson requested staff liaison to contact James Garrett and ICSSBM about delivery.
- E. Request letter to Superintendent DeMuth for Recognition of 2018 graduates
 - 1. Julius Hanks, coordinator of diversity opportunity will assist CSBM with the request. Hanks has asked for a flyer to publicize the sign up.
- F. Commissioner Sanders indicated that he will be working with Kourtney Byrd in organizing an event for the summer.

D. ACTION ITEMS (updates)

- 1. BLACK MALE SUMMIT
Planning meeting scheduled for April 23rd.
- 2. HEALTH AND WELLNESS - As previously reported by Commissioner Richardson under new business and old business.
- 3. FOSTER PARENT RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE – Commissioner Turner indicated that many organizations will participate in an informational session that will have to be scheduled on Wednesday.

4. FINANCIAL LITERACY – As reported.
5. H-T CONTENT ANALYSIS – Staff liaison has had communication with Fred Darko. Fred will publish a report in May.

6. BICENTENNIAL ARTS CONTEST Reception will be July 27th. Discussion are taking place with the schools. 4 categories and 4 winners in each category. CSBM will be responsible for assisting with the publicity and marketing.

8. Announcements

9. Adjournments

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm