

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACK MALES

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
5:30pm

Hooker Conference Room #245 City Hall  
401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, IN

**AGENDA**

Members Present: Cornelius Wright, Brian Richardson Jr., James Sanders, Fred Darko, David Hummons called meeting at 5:32pm

Guests: Caleb Poer, 2017 Outstanding Black Male Leader of Tomorrow recipient; Dexter Griffin, 2016 Outstanding Black Male Leader of Tomorrow recipient; Michael Shermis, CFRD; Jaime Bue, Indiana University

Staff: Rafi Khalid Hasan II, City of Bloomington Liaison

**Introductions**

Michael Shermis- Special Projects Coordinator with the Community and Family Resources Department (CFRD)

**1. Request for Additional Agenda Items**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**3. New Business**

A. Goal-setting exercise- Michael Shermis, CFRD

*Top Votes*

8- Financial Literacy

7- Youth Initiative for Young Black Males

5- College Prep

5- Black Father Mentoring

*Other Priorities*

4- Mentoring Program

4- Parental Involvement

4- Life Skills

3- Concentrate on 4 Goals

2- Drug Treatment Program- Advocacy

- 2- Black Male Recognition
- 2- Youth Involvement CSBM
- 1- School Administrator Dialogue
- 1- Oral Histories
- 1- Community Forums (1 per quarter)
- 1- Organizational Collaborations

B. Young Black Males Matter, Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males  
 1. Over 250 young black males attended the event

C. Colorectal Cancer Prevention and Awareness Initiative 2017

- 1. Black Barbershop next Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

Location: Razor's Image Barbershop: 223 South Pete Ellis Drive #2

The event starts at 9 a.m. There will be events including: Free health screenings for blood pressure, blood glucose, body mass indicator, and HIV testing from 9:00am-11:00am; IU CAPS talk on mental health from 12:30pm-1:00pm, spinal health screenings from 1:00pm-2:00pm; 2:00pm-2:30pm stress management

D. Request to Common Council for two affiliates to CSBM

The CSBM must compose a letter stating the need for the affiliates.

E. City of Bloomington Health and Wellness Fair- April 8th

CSBM presence was positive: information available and established connections with vendors.

#### 4. **Liaison report**

A. New appointments

- 1. Welcome James Sanders
- 2. Welcome Fred Darko
- 3. Welcome Brian Turner

This is the first time that the commission is full.

B. Request for assistance

1. Paul Kriese, retired professor from IU-East, has written a book about black women activists in Indiana. He is requesting the commission's help with circulating a questionnaire for Black Males in Indiana 28 and over.

2. Story Corps Oral History project: May 21- June 25. They have specifically asked for stories from underrepresented people. Interested participants must register online around May 11<sup>th</sup>. The interviews will be conducted on an air-conditioned bus with two people.

*C. Review of CSBM bylaws*

**5. Old Business**

**A. Black Barbershop Initiative- April**

A representative from the Indiana State Commission for the Status of Black Males has requested to meet with the commission this Friday at 9 a.m. at Scholar's Inn on College.

**B. CSBM programming for city and county bicentennial celebration**

- need to have a meeting to hear what the CSBM had to say
- they were apologetic, suspended the program, talked about teachers receiving diversity training but not what those benchmarks are
- John offered to draft the letter

**C. Action committee reports**

**6. Adjournments**

A. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

**7. Announcements**

a. Staff Liaison, Rafi Hasan, handed out a calendar informational materials for the Young Black Males Matter Event on April 12<sup>th</sup>.