

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACK MALES  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 14th, 2017  
5:30pm  
Hooker Conference Room #245 City Hall  
401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, IN

AGENDA

Members Present: Cornelius Wright, Brian Richardson Jr., Byron Turner, John McCluskey Jr., Seth Debro, Fred Darko, David Hummons  
Guests: Casey Green, Indiana University; Caleb Poer, **Bloomington North High School student**  
Staff: Rafi Khalid Hasan II, City of Bloomington Liaison

Cornelius Wright called the meeting at 5:35pm.

**Introductions**

**1. Request for Additional Agenda Items**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Minutes approved at 5:43pm

**3. New Business**

- a. Black male summit
  - i. Invite Patrick Smith, Director of the FASE Mentoring Program, to attend July meeting to discuss collaborating with summit.
  - ii. Stressed importance of summit being held annually, collaborating with programs already in existence (e.g. Black Males Matter movement) and relevant across wide demographic.

**4. Liaison report**

- a. Review and Approval of CSBM bylaws
  - i. Discussion of automatically adding award winners for Black Leaders of Tomorrow as affiliate positions.
    - 1. Each commission allowed up to 4 affiliates but requests must be justified. Commissioners should identify specific individuals and write letters to Council for approval.
    - 2. Commissioners encouraged to seek out diversity for affiliate positions in order to represent broader inclusiveness, bringing dynamic perspectives to the table (eg. youth, seniors, women, and the LGBTQ+ community).
    - 3. Rafi will look into affiliate term limits and report back.
    - 4. Discussion of potentially extending quarterly invitation to representative from MCCSC to come to CSBM meeting.

5. Commissioners concluded it is unnecessary to adjust bylaws to reflect an affiliate appointment.
6. Caleb Poer & Dexter to be requested as affiliates.
- ii. Discussion of proposed adjustment to 10-month meeting pattern, taking off June and July.
  1. Motion by John McCluskey to take off June/July, starting in 2018, save emergency; motion approved.
  2. Commission concluded meeting pattern adjustment need not be added formally to bylaws.
- iii. Motion by Seth Debro that bylaws read and updated as of June 14, 2017; motion approved.
- b. Election of officers for 2017-2018
  - i. Chairperson: Motion to nominate Cornelius Wright; motion approved.
  - ii. Vice Chairperson: Motion to nominate Brian Richardson; motion approved.
  - iii. Secretary
    1. Clarification of duties: notes, drafting correspondence, requests made to other commissions, ensuring reports are filed properly
    2. Motion to nominate John McCluskey; motion approved.
- c. Commission name badges

## 5. Old Business

- a. Letter to MCCSC Board of School Trustees on Lunch Shaming
  - i. School Board meeting June 27, 6pm
    1. Cornelius and David will attend.
    2. Discussion of importance of wearing name badges, reviewing literature, policy, etc. Sue Wanzer will send Rafi a short protocol on how to address school board.
  - ii. Talking points on school lunch shaming
    1. NY Times article: research article
    2. Mother Hubbard's wrote response (get from Rafi)
- b. 2017 Campaign on Colorectal Cancer Prevention and Awareness**
  - i. Wanda Katinszky, IU Health Cancer Center Bloomington, may be able to provide extra kits and resources for free. Cornelius will meet Thursday and report back.
- c. CSBM program planning for city and county bicentennial celebration**
  - i. Budget is currently being developed. Need to map out design of program.
  - ii. In touch with foundation of MCCSC and Real Men Read. Willing to attend call out meeting to allow background check form.
- d. Request to Common Council for two affiliates to CSBM
- e. Action committee reports**
  - i. Education
    1. MCCSC policy on reduced lunches
      - a. See above
    2. Bloomington Housing Authority Back to School Fair, 8/2

- a. BHA Residence Council, group of volunteer residents at Crestmont, hosting event to provide school and toiletries and need support. Discussion of talking to volunteer network to get a wishlist.
    - i. Last year served 150. Evictions highest around back to school and Christmas.
    - ii. Sherwood Oaks providing some shoes. MCUM providing some toiletries.
  - b. Commission needs to decide how best to support the event.
- 3. Might want to get names from schools to recognize students a little earlier next year. Utilize grass roots strategies to source names.

ii. Health and Wellness

- 1. ICSSBM update on Black Barbership Initiative-recap phone conference
  - a. This year, there were 896 participants from all counties; average over past 4 years was 811.
    - i. In Bloomington: 2005, 1 person screened; 2017, 25 people screened.
    - ii. Liked: Thursday rather than Saturday. Synergy around Little 5.
  - b. Ages 30-39 had highest BMI and blood pressure; 80% showed signs of hypertension. Ages 18-29 had some warning factors. Oldest demographic was healthiest of all sampled.
  - c. Moving forward, different initiatives will be used to target the 30-39 age group.
- 2. Colorectal Cancer Campaign

iii. Employment and Entrepreneurship

- 1. Financial Literacy (Dollars and Sense Program)
  - a. Initial training with United Way was rescheduled for 12<sup>th</sup>, no commissioners were able to attend as the training session was full.
  - b. **Terence Thomas** went to training. Train the trainer program format – CSBM could potentially invite him to attend a meeting to discuss working together.

iv. Criminal Justice

- 1. Pamphlets need to be updated; copies are needed to get out to the community.

## 6. Adjournments

- a. Meeting adjourned at 6:41 pm.

## 7. Announcements

- a. Monroe County Black Caucus Fundraiser at Griffin Realty 6/16 5:30pm
- b. West Baden Renewal Project at FOP Lodge 6/17 6-9pm

- c. Juneteenth Day...
- d. Assistant Prosecutor Jeffrey Bradley will be running for Judge. Would be first black male judge in Monroe Co. in 2018. City of Bloomington disclaimer – does not endorse any candidate.
- e. City of Bloomington website