



Commission Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Chairman Robert Marshall Jr. called the Commission Board Meeting to order on Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at 10:13am in the Indiana Government Center South, Media Center.

Roll Call

Tim Brown, Marco Deckard, Laura Heinrich, Mindy Lewis, Virgil Madden, Robert Marshall, Shanida Sharp-Byrnes, Adrienne Shields, Lynn Smith, Rob Wynkoop

Guest – Shatana Nixon w/ DFR Comptroller's Office, Greta McKinney w/Indiana University-Purdue University Ft. Wayne, Demetrees Hutchins w/ Indiana University

Staff – James Garrett Jr., Malika Mays

Prayer

James E. Garrett Jr.

Adoption of Minutes

Tim Brown moved to accept the August 25, 2010 minutes; Adrienne Shields seconded the motion; minutes were approved unanimously

Financial Report

Shatana Nixon briefly went over the budget summary. The only expenditures from the Donations (6000) account were the final \$2500 balance owed to the African American Male National Council (AAMNC) and the \$550.20 payment to IUPUI for the April 27, 2010 retreat lunch. The Donations (6000) account remaining balance is \$72,642.34.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Garrett briefly went over his report and provided commissioners with a copy for their review. In his report, he mentioned his visit to the Muncie local commission; from that meeting, Mr. Garrett volunteered to provide the Muncie commission with resources and contact information for someone to assist them with the process of making recommendations to the legislature for food stamp policy changes to serve Black males within their community. Commissioners briefly discussed this issue and decided to gather and share a fact sheet for the food stamp policy for all local commissions and post it on our website. Adrienne Shields, Tim Brown, and James Garrett will work together on this project.

Subcommittee Reports & Update

The subcommittee initiative has begun with all subcommittees having had their initial meeting prior to September 3, 2010. The notes from each subcommittee are included in this report.

Criminal Justice Sub-Committee Conference Call August 24, 2010 (1:30pm)

FOP Statewide

Sheriff Association – law enforcement breakdown by race and gender

Association of Chiefs of Police – plea arrangements

IN Prosecutors Association

IN Public Defenders Council – collect more data from other criminal justice organizations

- What are the top 5 crimes for Black males in DOC facilities and separate the felonies from the person's incarcerated Black males vs. white males
- Tim suggested working backward from the totals asking and solving the question of why
- The charge becomes asking the IN Prosecutors Council's Association for specific request on plea agreements, sentence structure, sentence modification and any other component of disparities in criminal justice

- Include in the letter also ICJI
- Executive summary of findings from this information received to share with Governor and legislature

Education Sub-Committee Conference Call Thursday, August 26, 2010 (9:30am)

- How black males react to authority, how to handle conflict resolution
- How do we build a plan and navigate the education environment
- How do we educate the parents and ensure they know how to create a 4 yr. plan
- 3 strategies for elementary, middle, and high school; also identify resources and other organizations in the community to assist
- Drill down for additional resources. Incorporate partners like Gwen Kelley, Pat Payne, & Judy Williams
- What do we do and how do we do it? Parent involvement with Jackie Garvey of Indiana Parent Network; pamphlets, brochures, and information
- May consider workshops/seminars with local commissions to better gauge what is going on locally
- Tie in with local commissions to find out how they involve parents in their communities
- Gauge local information shared and means to measure what is going on locally
- Consider bringing in local commission reps to train or empower with 4 yr plan, information and strategy to take back to
- More collaboration with local commissions

Employment Subcommittee Conference Call Friday, August 27, 2010 (9:30am)

- Job fairs with local commissions and WorkOne offices. This could benefit the local communities and spur targeted job growth within the community or county
- Process knowledge regarding how to apply and access employment opportunities
- Pre-screening for black males in order to be successful and be apart of the initial employment hiring for the new business or industry
- Partnership with DWD for job coaching, resume writing, job skills, and specific life work skills building

Career mentoring and developing a career plan or strategy for black males is a must

Health Subcommittee Conference Call Monday, August 30, 2010 (2:00pm)

- Serve as a clearinghouse of information i.e. Indiana Black Expo or community health fairs, conferences or other events
- Providing information pamphlets, or brochures, and promotion
- Need a communications strategy/plan
- Follow up with schools that participated through a call or survey i.e. survey monkey
- The challenge with being a clearinghouse is to ensure the information and links are current and operable
- The suggestion may be to share with the Ad Hoc committee
- Pull up the concerns from Laura Heinrich from last years annual report

Social Factors Sub-Committee Conference Call Tuesday, August 31, 2010 (2:00pm)

*Wayne Wellington – only participant to call in

- Look at marriage levels or fatherhood
- We have data and stats on food stamps & TANF

- May want to consider Black Male income levels
- May want to incorporate the charts and stats from the 5 year plan 2007 modified document

The Ad-hoc sub-committee will determine the outcomes and timeline for the work to be completed by each sub-committee.

Commissioner Madden asked that we review the previous minutes and make the noted change that he volunteered to be on the Ad-hoc sub-committee, but was removed by the Chairman. Commissioners briefly discussed this issue; a motion was made by Commission Brown to amend the Ad-hoc sub-committee structure to include five members instead of three and to include Commissioner Madden in the Ad-hoc sub-committee; commissioner Lewis second, vote passed with one opposition from Commissioner Deckard on behalf of Commissioner Jamal Smith.

Old Business

Men & Women of Color Leadership Conference Update

Mr. Garrett informed commissioners that during his phone call with Patrick Smith, he was told that the Office of Diversity will not be providing any funds for this event, which is why he is seeking outside sponsorships. Mr. Garrett also spoke with the Bloomington Local commission's Chairman David Hummons, and he is willing to be a co sponsor with our assistance. Mr. Garrett will be meeting with Patrick Smith & David Hummons this Friday at 3:30pm to finalize the plans, and see how many youth the Bloomington commission can sponsor with our help.

From this discussion, commissioners decided to have the Ad Hoc sub-committee work on setting guidelines for sponsorships and accepting proposals.

New Business

Chairman Marshall's Annual Report Assistance Proposal

Note: Commissioner Wynkoop informed members that we were granted permission to have our annual report printed using funds from our donations (6000) account. Commissioners requested a document in writing regarding standing approval for printing of the annual report.

Due to many issues with our previous annual reports, Chairman Marshall decided to seek the help of an outside resource to assist the commission in coming up with a enhanced report. Ms. Demetrees Hutchins presented commissioners with a proposal to provide technical assistance and data analysis support to the Executive Director on the annual report. With her assistance, we will have a final copy for review by October 15th. Commissioners briefly discussed this and passed a vote to accept Ms. Hutchins proposal and assistance with the report; her \$1,000 fee will be paid via our Donations (6000) account. Mr. Garrett and Commissioner Madden will also follow up with our retreat facilitators for their assistance on the report as well.

Announcements

Presentation by Ms. Greta McKinney

Ms. McKinney gave commissioners a presentation on her African American Suicide prevention initiative, how it began, and its benefit to the Commission and our local commissions. She is working with other resources to see why there is such a big disparity between African Americans and mental health services. They are also trying to encourage more African American's to work in the mental health field, and provide more resources and facilities in the communities.

Meeting adjourned @ 11:50am