



Commission Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 19, 2014

The Commission Board Meeting took place on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 and a quorum was seated at 10:53 am. Chairman Melton opened the meeting and asked Commissioner Vernon Smith to pray the invocation.

Roll Call

Laura Heinrich proxy for Jerome Adams, Shanel Poole, Warren Boyd proxy for Lance Rhodes, Andre Patterson via conference call, Lynn Smith proxy for Kevin Moore, Representative Vernon Smith, Eddie Melton, Kenneth Allen, Elijah Neal, and Marco Deckard proxy for Jamal Smith.

Staff – James Garrett Jr.

Invocation

Representative Vernon G. Smith offered the invocation.

Introductions

No introductions.

Adoption of Minutes

Commissioner Vernon Smith moved for the approval of the minutes from the August 20, 2014 meeting and October 29th Strategic Planning session with the suggestion for the August 20th minutes to spell out the first time AIT, Agency for Instructional Technology, be adopted as presented and the motion was seconded by Kenneth Allen. Minutes adopted unanimously.

Financial Report

The financial report was presented and Kenneth Allen moved for the acceptance of the financial report and the motion was seconded by Warren Boyd. The financial report was accepted unanimously.

Strategic Plan

Rollout suggestions

- Statewide Press Release
- Webinar/Conference Call with all the local commissions and community leaders
- Subcommittee development and Commissioner recruitment
- Engagement of the stake holders, community leaders and community partners

Commissioner Vernon Smith stated in his opinion the Education section of the plan is superficial and he feels we need to dig deeper; he suggested inviting the Superintendent of Public Instruction and key members of her educational team to meet with the Commission to be made aware and updated on the Education Department plan and to discern how the Commission Strategic Plan overlaps with the Department of Education. Second, it was suggested the Commission hone the target demographic and ensure that Commission education initiatives are shared via the Strategic Plan with the Department of Education. A third suggestion offered, to share the Strategic Plan with Superintendents of school corporations with large numbers of black students. A fourth suggestion, offered to better utilize legislative recommendations, the Governor's office for Executive orders and local community best practices. "We know what we need to do but we don't tend to do it, why?"

More discussion continued regarding the Strategic Plan principally focusing on how to enhance or enrich the plan.

Representative Greg Porter has an Education bill that the Commission may want to monitor, support and consider lobbying for.

Chairman Melton asked to develop a strategy to engage the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and facilitate a meeting with her, himself, Commissioner Vernon Smith and the Commission staff.

The city of Gary and Indianapolis have accepted the President's challenge of "I Am My Brother's Keeper" and both communities have strong youth components with the Gary group working with Indiana University Northwest and plan to prepare a report that the Commission will want to review.

Commissioner Vernon Smith suggested having legislators also do a press release regarding the Commission Strategic Plan.

Suggestion and question posed regarding a holiday social event in December. More details will be shared regarding an event/meeting for December.

Commissioner Vernon Smith moved for adjournment of the meeting at 11:59 am and the motion was seconded by Vice Chair Neal.

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