



Commission Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 25, 2010

Vice Chairman Kenneth Allen called the Commission Board Meeting to order on Wednesday, August 25, 2010 at 10:24am in the Indiana Government Center South, conference room 32.

Roll Call

Kenneth Allen, Tim Brown, Marco Deckard, Virgil Madden, Shanida Sharp-Byrnes, Lynn Smith, Dr. Vernon Smith, Sen. Greg Taylor, Rob Wynkoop, Wayne Wellington

Guest – Shatana Nixon w/ DFR Comptroller's Office, Ernest Smith

Staff – James Garrett Jr., Malika Mays

Prayer

Lynn Smith

Adoption of Minutes

Senator Taylor moved to accept the June 16, 2010 minutes; Lynn Smith seconded the motion; minutes were approved unanimously

Financial Report

Shatana Nixon reminds commissioners that June was the last month of the 2010 fiscal year. The final payment owed to AAMNC and the reimbursement funds to Lumina Foundation have been paid with the new fiscal year dollars.

A motion was made and properly second to have our budget reports be modified and presented with an itemized summary of our expenditures and balances. Ms. Nixon will prepare the budget report as requested.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Garrett briefly went over his report and provided commissioners with a copy for their review. Mr. Garrett also shared a copy of the information brochure that was created for the Commission; which can be printed from our website.

Senator Taylor feels that the Commission should become more visible and involved with the issues taking place in the community. Dr. Smith agrees, and says he has spoken about this issue previously. He feels that the police brutality is an issue we can speak upon, show the statistics to prove our point, and encourage the people who make the decisions to thoroughly investigate. Mr. Wellington says if we plan on being activist, we need to have a model in place for situations like this.

Commissioners discussed this and decided to let the Ad Hoc Operations sub-committee handle this issue.

Old Business

Annual Report 2008-2009 Printing & Distribution Clarification

Mr. Garrett shared the email he received from the OMB Office of Communications informing him that the request to have our 2008-2009 annual report printed has been denied. Once again, they have referenced our statue as the reason. Commissioners expressed their concern over the lack of control we have over the funds in our account that does not have appropriated funds. Commissioners would like to have someone from the OMB Office to attend our meeting and provide a clear clarification. Mr. Garrett also provided Commissioners with a printing quote from Pitney Bowes.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Madden asked that Mr. Wynkoop work with Tim Brown and Pen Products to get this matter resolved. Mr. Wynkoop accepted, and will report his finding to the board.

New Business

Annual Report 2009-2010 Update

Mr. Garrett informed commissioners that he is in the process of reviewing all the data received by State Agencies. The chairman would like for us to have more data available, so a request for more data and information has been sent to various organizations. Dr. Smith says that any applicable information given should be used in our annual report. Commissioners also provided Mr. Garrett with a few more resources to look into for information. Mr. Garrett hopes to have an initial draft copy of the report prepared by September 30th for review.

Men & Women of Color Leadership Conference, November 12-13, 2010

Patrick Smith was unable to attend and give a presentation, but he did provide commissioners with an information packet in regards to the up coming Men and Women of Color Leadership Conference, to be held November 12-13, 2010 on the IUPUI Bloomington campus. Patrick has extended an invitation to the commission to be a co-sponsor for this event. He wants to know if the commission has the funds available to bring in youth from Monroe County to attend the conference. The Commission would be asked to be responsible for the youths' registration fee and meal for the one day. Commissioners discussed this and want James to contact the Bloomington local commission and inquire about them becoming co-sponsors; we will then work with the Bloomington commission on this sponsorship.

Announcements

Presentation by Mr. Earnest Smith

Mr. Smith presented the commissioners with his idea of holding an event that will allow Black males from all walks of life to come together and have conversations about the true issues taking place in the lives of Black men, how we can improve them, and ways to improve our community. He feels that these men can walk away with some valuable information by having a dialog with different perspectives involved; they can then use that information to go out and make a difference in their own lives and community; there will also be action items for the men that they will be held accountable for. Commissioners agree that something like this needs to take place, and offered him a few ideas, words of advice and encouragement.

Meeting adjourned @ 11:50am