

**Commission on Community Relations and Development  
October 10, 2023  
6:00 pm  
MEETING MINUTES**

I. Call to Order

Chair Terri Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

II. Invocation

Vice-Chair David Elliott

III. Roll Call (Members Present)

Carole Battle	Marcus Lewis
Terri Bradley	David Elliott
Amber Tyler	Washea Lancaster
Stephen McFarland	

\*Liaison informed that Oravan Sewthaisong resigned effective 10-10-2023.

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Terri Bradley asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Member Amber Tyler moved to adopt. Vice-Chair David Elliott seconded. All were in favor and the agenda was adopted.

V. Approval of meeting minutes (September 12, 2023)

Vice-Chair David Elliott offered the motion to accept the September meeting minutes. Member Stephen McFarland seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

VI. Action and Discussion Items

- A. MLK Subcommittee Report: Subcommittee Chair Carole Battle provided a handout with updates (attached).
- B. Food Desert: Vice-Chair David Elliott shared that he and Member Roderick White have initiated discussions about the food desert in the southern part of the city (South of Elm/Down Slocumb). He also shared the following: 1) Contact made with Dollar General, Walmart, Publix, Aldi, 2) Consultation with Chair of City's Planning Commission (A. Slater), 3) Will be looking at zoning, 4) Will consult Ms. Cheryl Alston who has received a grant for gardening and has land in the area, and 5) Has consulted with GPD on the recent Piggly Wiggly crime narrative.

- C. Emergency Shelter Petition: Vice-Chair David Elliot discussed emergency funds for hotel rooms and to petition the City ahead of the winter months; Member Marcus Lewis has offered to reach out to Mr. Chris Jenkins with Hope Restorations and invite him to a meeting to share about his organization ; Member Carole Battle motioned and Member Stephen McFarland seconded to approve and plan to present to City Council at the November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting; Chair Terri Bradley suggested a working group with no more than 5 members instead of a special meeting; Member Amber Tyler discussed a potential collaboration with Re-Entry and shared that may not be a good fit, due to being only justice-related and would provide limited assistance. She also shared that Mrs. Renita Dawson recommends 4-Day Movement, United Way, or Salvation Army.
- D. Strategies for Public Events: Vice-Chair David Elliot recommended a golf tournament in the Summer of 2024.
- E. Annual Report Input: Annual Report to Council, Chair Terri Bradley will begin to prepare.
- F. Q&A Open Topics: Bringing items for Events Box discussed; Liaison reminded that ideas for a CCRD logo are needed.

## VII. Reports

- A. Chair: Will keep members updated on Steering Committee.
- B. Vice-Chair: Importance of Branding.
- C. Liaison: CR&D Community Resources Review will be revisited in November; Liaison attending Human Relations/Civil Rights conference in Wilmington.

## VIII. Civic Events/Information Items

- A. CCRD Members: Member Amber Tyler shared: Re-Entry simulation was great; October 25<sup>th</sup> Fall Festival at St. Mark's; October 26<sup>th</sup> Trunk or Treat at Wayne Community College from 6pm-8pm; November 16<sup>th</sup> ECU at Wayne Community College from 6pm-8pm; and Peer Support Specialist Program. Member Stephen McFarland shared: HACG complaints (mold and damaged ceilings), and how can tenants be helped by CR&D; and October 23<sup>rd</sup> Candidates Forum at Rebuilding Broken Places at 6pm. Member Carole Battle shared her absence for the month of November due to vacation in Australia.

## VIII. Adjournment

Chair Terri Bradley asked for a motion to adjourn. Member Stephen McFarland offered the motion. Member Amber Tyler seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

**\*Minutes taken and prepared by Liaison Felecia Williams, MS/QP**