

**Commission on Community Relations and Development  
July 9, 2024  
6:00 pm  
Meeting Minutes**

I. Call to Order

Chair Terri Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. Invocation

Member Chretien Dumond

III. Roll Call (Members Present)

|               |               |                      |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Carole Battle | Terri Bradley | Chretien Dumond      |
| Marcus Lewis  | Tavis Lofton  | Phyllis Merrit-James |
| Denise Todd   |               |                      |

\*Member update: Liaison notified that Members Washea Lancaster & David Elliott have submitted resignations.

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Terri Bradley asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Member Chretien Dumond recommended amending the agenda, moving Item VII so that the current Chair can still report on the specified report items in case a new Chair is elected. Member Phyllis Merrit-James moved to adopt the agenda as amended. Member Tavis Lofton seconded. All were in favor and the agenda was adopted.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes (April 9, 2024)

Chair Terri Bradley asked for a motion to adopt the minutes. Member Chretien Dumond moved to adopt. Member Phyllis Merritt-James seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were adopted.

VI. Reports

A. Chair

1. Homeless Update: Chair Terri Bradley informed that the working group is tabled for now.
2. Comprehensive Plan: Chair Terri Bradley discussed community input, Choice Neighborhood, communication, branding ideas for CCRD.

B. Vice Chair – No Report

- C. Liaison – Liaison Felecia Williams shared that the City of Wilson’s Human Relations Department has invited neighboring Relations Commissions (Goldsboro, Rocky Mount, and Greenville) to a Free Human Relations Workshop on August 21<sup>st</sup> and provided a copy of the event flyer. The guest speaker will be Mr. Gene Troy, Program Manager of NC

Human Relations Commission Civil Rights Division and NC Office of Administrative Hearings.

VII. Action and Discussion Items

- A. **RRO (Robert's Rules of Order):** Chair Terri Bradley discussed the history of RRO. Liaison Felecia Williams provided a Robert's Rules of Order Reference for Nominations & Elections handout for discussion.
- B. **Election Process:** After review of current by-laws and discussion of RRO's Nominations & Elections, Liaison prompted members to decide on nominations by floor or written ballot. Member Phyllis Merritt-James moved that the decision be made to nominate either by floor or written ballot. Member Carole Battle seconded. All were in favor. Member Carole Battle moved for nominations to take place on the floor. Member Phyllis Merritt-James seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- C. **By-laws (revision suggestions):** After a review of the current by-laws members moved to change the approval of amended by-laws authority to City Council versus City Manager. Member Phyllis Merritt-James moved to adopt. Member Tavis Lofton seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- D. **Next Community Event:** Member Chretien Dumond recommended and moved to table this item until the next meeting due to elections. Member Phyllis Merritt-James seconded. All were in favor.
- E. **Elections:** Members carried out nominations and elections on the floor. The following nominations were made for position of Chair: Marcus Lewis & Carole Battle. Marcus Lewis declined, and Carole Battle accepted. Member Phyllis Merritt-James moved to appoint Member Carole Battle as Chair. Member Marcus Lewis seconded. The majority were in favor and the motion passed. The following nominations were made for position of Vice Chair: Chretien Dumond & Marcus Lewis. Chretien Dumond declined, and Marcus Lewis accepted. Member Phyllis Merritt-James moved to appoint Marcus Lewis as Vice Chair. Member Tavis Lofton seconded. The majority were in favor and the motion passed.
- F. **Sub-Committee Update:** New Chair Carole Battle recommended tabling this item and asked Liaison Felecia Williams to contact the appointed subcommittee chair Member Jeremy Whitley concerning his absence. Liaison agreed to make contact.

VIII. Civic Events/Information Items

- 1. Chair Carole Battle shared that the Continental Society was sponsoring the Kids Zone at the upcoming Center Street Jams and discussed adding a 'New Business' item to the agenda moving forward.
- 2. Member Chretien Dumond shared an upcoming Gun Violence event at Rebuilding Broken Places.

3. Member Tavis Lofton shared the ArtsExecute program information and recruitment details.
4. All members and Liaison thanked former Chair Terri Bradley for her service. New Chair Carole Battle acknowledged former sitting Vice Chair Amber Tyler for her hard work and dedication.

#### VIII. Adjournment

Chair Carole Battle asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Phyllis Merritt-James motioned to adjourn. Member Chretien Dumond seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

**\*Minutes taken and prepared by Liaison Felecia D. Williams.**