



Community Relations Board  
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**Special Meeting Session**  
**Monday, January 10, 2005**  
Community Room - City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
5:30pm – 7pm

**Minutes – FINAL**

**I. Call to Order**

Ms. Alexandria Osborne called the meeting to order at 5:45pm. She served as chair for the meeting.

**II. Roll Call**

A. Members Present: Alexandria Osborne, Rebecca Westphal, Jorge Rodriguez

B. Members Not Present: Maia Storm (unexcused), Kirsten Enstice (excused)

C. Others Present: City Liaison Alfrelynn J. Roberts, City Commissioner David Juarez (left early)

**III. Approval of Agenda – January 10, 2004**

Agenda approved without amendment

**IV. Approval of Minutes – December 9, 2004**

Minutes approved with corrections  
(Section VI, page 3 – ‘contract’ changed to ‘contact’)

**V. Discussion of Agenda Items**

**A. Annual Report Discussion and Exchange of Materials – Items from 2004**

Committee discussed and exchanged information about the final report. Ms. Osborne prepared a draft of the report for the committee to review. The City Liaison will take make changes to the document and have the final document ready for review by the end of the month. Several sections of the document were discussed. They are as follows:

*Section 2 Kalamazoo “Campaign for Racial Justice”* – Take out highlighted area indicating the year the initiative began.

*Section 3C Community Outreach Programs/Schools* – Section is unfinished. Ms. Westphal will complete & send completed version to the city liaison.

*Section 4 Other Business* – Section should be placed in chronological order.

*Supporting Materials* – City Liaison will gather and compile.

**B. Committee Candidate Informational Session**

The Committee interviewed the following candidates for membership:

*Stephanie D. Coulter, Kalamazoo Resident*

*Stacy E. Smith, Kalamazoo Resident*

*Amanda M. Grove, Kalamazoo Resident*

**C. Discussion of Candidates**

The Committee discussed the candidates’ qualifications & potential impact to the Board. After which, the committee unanimously voted to submit the names of all the candidates for membership to the City Commission for approval. (Ms. Osborne made the motion; Ms. Westphal seconded) The City Liaison will

submit the names of the candidates to the City Clerk's Office. The candidates' approval will be placed on the City Commission agenda for approval during the 31 January 2005 meeting.

**D. Kalamazoo Public Safety Diversity Initiative**

*Viewing of diversity training video from the US Department of Justice, Community Relations Services Division*

The Committee viewed the video used by Kalamazoo Public Safety Department for Arab American/Muslim sensitivity training. Ms. Osborne will follow up with KPS Chief, Dan Weston about how, who viewed the video & what kind of forum was provided for officers that might have had questions about the content.

**E. Kalamazoo Public Schools Diversity Guidelines/Curriculum Overview and Discussion**

The City Liaison discussed concerns about the guidelines and the process by which the guidelines were finally produced. After further research, KPS contacted the City Liaison & referred her to their *Curriculum Framework* devised by the Service and Learning Division of KPS. There were 3 references to diversity in the entire 40+ page document. As a result, the City Liaison researched 3 diversity school models; Portage (MI) Public Schools, Chicago (IL) Public Schools & Victoria, Australia Schools, for the Committee's reference. The Committee decided to pursue this item further and strongly recommended that the item be thoroughly discussed during the February 2005 Planning Meeting. The Committee discussed a few possibilities for action; organize KPS parents/guardians, facilitate forum, etc.

**F. Drunk Driving Reduction Program – Student Proposal for CRB**

The Committee decided to pursue this item further & recommended that the item be discussed during the February 2005 Planning Meeting. The Committee discussed a possible partnership with WMU's Student Association, as there will be 2 new members with strong ties to the student population at WMU. Ms. Westphal mentioned a similar program currently operating at the University of Wisconsin at LaCrosse.

**G. Decision regarding meeting on Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**

The Committee decided to cancel the regularly scheduled meeting.

**VI. On-Going Issues**

No Discussion

**VII. Community Involvement**

No Discussion

**VIII. Other Business/Announcements**

The February Planning Retreat/New Member Orientation will be at **Food Dance Restaurant, Monday, February 7, 2005 at 5:30pm**. The City Liaison will make reservations as well as send correspondence to the members about the Retreat. The Committee also discussed the possibility of a date/time revision for the next fiscal year. This issue will be discussed at the Retreat.

**IX. Public Comment**

No Discussion

**X. Adjournment**

Ms. Osborne adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.

**Next Scheduled Special Meeting**  
**Monday, February 7, 2005**  
Food Dance Restaurant  
5:30pm – 7pm