



Community Relations Board  
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## **Special Meeting Session Annual Planning Retreat / New Member Orientation**

**Monday, February 7, 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 5:55pm. She served as chair for the meeting until the new chair for the group was elected.

#### **II. Roll Call**

A. Members Present: Stephanie Coulter, Amanda Grove, Kirsten Enstice, Alexandria Osborne, Rebecca Westphal, Jorge Rodriguez, Maia Storm, Stacy Smith

B. Others Not Present: City Commissioner David Juarez (excused; Commission Meeting)

C. Others Present: City Liaison Alfrelynn J. Roberts

#### **III. Approval of Agenda – February 7, 2005**

Agenda approved with additions

Section V Reconfigured

A. Annual Report Review, Discussion & Approval

B. Orientation of New Members

C. Kalamazoo Public Safety – Edison Neighborhood Meeting Update

D. Discussion of New Meeting Date

E. Election of New Chairperson & Vice Chairperson

F. Discussion of 2005 Project Agenda & Initiatives

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes – January 10, 2005**

Minutes Approved with correction

Ms. Storm's January absence was excused.

#### **V. Discussion of Agenda Items**

##### **A. Annual Report Review, Discussion & Approval**

The Board reviewed 2004 Annual Report and adopted the report with no amendments. Mr. Rodriguez discussed the possibility of following-up on the tax break issue initiated by former member Lynwood Bartley. The Board decided to continue discussion during *2005 Project Agenda & Initiatives* section of the meeting agenda.

##### **B. Orientation of New Members – Overview of Community Relations Board**

*Stephanie D. Coulter*

*Stacy E. Smith*

*Amanda M. Grove*

The City Liaison explained the sections of the CRB Binder. Other members asked for new binders for 2005 as well. Ms. Enstice explained the role and significance of the CRB in the community. Ms. Osborne further commented on why advocacy is so important to our community. Ms. Enstice continued the discussion and reviewed the 3 ways issues are addressed by the Board; community comes to the meeting and expresses

concerns, the Board solicits the community for issues and the Board members bring issues to the general Board. She also talked about the different projects with which the CRB has been responsible such as *Support for the Latino Radio Station, Citizen's Review & Appeals Board, Diversity Celebration in Edison Neighborhood, Mexican Consulate ID, Patriot Act Resolution* and the *Race Summit*. Ms. Osborne further commented that the CRB above all, must continue to be flexible and responsive to issues on the "front burner."

### **C. Kalamazoo Public Safety – Edison Neighborhood Meeting Update**

Ms. Enstice inquired about the outcome of the Meeting. The City Liaison will find information about the event and have an update for the Board at the next meeting.

### **D. Discussion of New Meeting Date**

New dates were discussed. The Board voted and a new meeting date was established. The Board will meet the **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month @ 5:30pm**. The dates for 2005 are as follows:

**March 14<sup>th</sup>, April 11<sup>th</sup>, May 9<sup>th</sup>, June 13<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup>,  
August 8<sup>th</sup>, September 12<sup>th</sup>, October 10<sup>th</sup>, November 14<sup>th</sup> & December 12<sup>th</sup>**

### **E. Election of New Chairperson & Vice Chairperson**

Ms. Osborne opened the floor for nominations for elected positions. Nominations were as follows:

**Chair** – Rebecaa Westphal & Maia Storm

**Vice Chair** – Kish Enstice & Stacy Smith

Ballots were collected and counted by the City Liaison. The results were as followed:

**Chair** – Rebecaa Westphal (7 Votes) & Maia Storm (1 Vote)

**Vice Chair** – Kish Enstice (5 Votes) & Stacy Smith (3 Votes)

Election Results are as followed and were announced by the City Liaison thusly:

**Chair** – Rebecaa Westphal

**Vice Chair** – Kish Enstice

Ms. Westphal presided over the remainder of the meeting.

### **F. Discussion of 2005 Project Agenda & Initiative**

Ms. Westphal asked the Board to discuss and suggest initiatives for the Board's 2005 projects. The following are proposed initiatives:

*Civilian Review & Appeals Board Review*

*Town Hall Meeting*

*Affordable Housing Initiative – Certificates of Rehabilitation*

*Domestic Violence Issues*

*Essay Contest*

*Drunk Driving Reduction Program – Student Proposal for CRB - "Drunk Bus"*

*College Student Town Hall Meeting*

*Racial Summit*

*Kalamazoo Public Schools Diversity Initiative*

Initiatives were categorized and members were asked to do preliminary work on the issues for presentation in March. 5 topic areas were identified:

**Student Relations** – includes *Drunk Driving Initiative & Town Hall Meeting*

*Members Working on Initiative – Ms. Smith & Ms. Grove*

**Civilian Review & Appeals Board Review** – includes *Domestic Violence Issues*

*Members Working on Initiative – Ms. Enstice, Ms. Storm & Ms. Coulter*

**Education** – includes *Kalamazoo Public Schools Diversity Initiative*

*Members Working on Initiative – Mr. Rodriguez & Ms. Westphal*

**Essay Contest**

*Members Working on Initiative – Ms. Osborne*

**Affordable Housing Initiative – Certificates of Rehabilitation**

The City Liaison will create a proposal form for the Board.

**VI. On-Going Issues**

City Liaison informed the Board that there is still one vacancy on the Board and it will need to be filled. The Board should continue to solicit for members.

**VII. Community Involvement**

No Discussion

**VIII. Other Business/Announcements**

No Discussion

**IX. Public Comment**

No Discussion

**X. Adjournment**

Ms. Westphal adjourned the meeting at 8:08pm.

**Next Scheduled Meeting**

**Monday, March 14, 2005**

Community Room – City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

5:30pm – 7pm