



Community Relations Board
241 West South Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-4796
Phone: 269.337.8362
Fax: 269.337.8182
www.kalamazoo.org

**Community Relations Board Monthly Meeting
Thursday, November 9, 2006**

2nd Floor Community Room (Room 202) – City Hall
5:30pm – 7:00pm

**FINAL
Meeting Minutes**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Steve Gerike, James Rodbard, Michael Wilson, Jake Zulewski

Members Not Present: Maria Mercedes (Unexcused), Tom Barrett (Excused), Amanda Grove (Excused)

Others Present: Jennifer Shoub, Executive Director YWCA, Chad Beyer, Racial Justice Supervisor YWCA

III. Approval of Agenda – November 9, 2006

Approved without amendment

IV. Approval of Minutes – October 12, 2006

Approved without amendment

V. Discussion of Agenda Items

- A. *Year Objectives and Goals* – CRB discussed two initiatives Mayor McKinney brought to group last meeting. Mr. Zulewski summarized the National League of Cities - Inclusive Community project and toolkit (*see attachment*). Jenni Shoub, YWCA Executive Director and Chad Beyer, Racial Justice Supervisor provided an overview and history of the Summit on Racism. Ms. Shoub and Mr. Beyer suggested that the Board would consider incorporating the Summit on Racism (SOR) initiatives (i.e., Housing, Education and Employment) into the town hall meetings the Board is planning. Ms. Shoub explained that there was not an advisory board for the SOR, but that members of the CRB could work directly with the leaders of the three initiatives to accomplish them same goals. **Town Hall Meetings** - CRB decided to contact Northside Association of Community Development, Douglass Community Association and/or Fairmont Neighborhoods and inquire about the availability to hold a town hall meeting to inform neighbors about the CRB function and affiliation to the City Commission. Group also suggested contacting Edison and Milwood neighborhoods as they have not received the attention the aforementioned neighborhoods have received. Mr. Wilson will contact representatives in Northside. Mr. Gerike will design a flyer that will advertise community forums and contact representative in Milwood area.
- B. *Prospective Member Informational Session (Jessica Hermann Wilmuth)* – CRB met with prospective member, Jessica Hermann Wilmuth.
- C. **Discussion of Applicant** – The candidate was discussed along with the appropriate steps needed to get the candidate confirmed for membership. CRB unanimously voted to accept Ms. Hermann Wilmuth’s application.
- D. **City Liaison Update** –
- **Inserts** – Group received a copy of the Human Rights Position description. CRB decided to review description and edit document to be placed in ordinance or policy format and be presented to City Commission. CRB members are urged to review document prior to December meeting
 - **Updates** – Group discussed attendance policy and those who have not met attendance requirements. Assistant City Manager will meet with group at December meeting. Group discussed ability to utilize website for advertisement purposes.

VI. On-Going Issues

No Discussion

VII. Community Involvement

No Discussion

VIII. Other Business/Announcements

No Discussion

IX. Public Comment

No Discussion

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting

Date: Thursday, December 14, 2006 · **Location:** Community Room (Room 202) – 2nd Floor City Hall · **Time:** 5:30pm – 7pm