

**PROPOSED MINUTES
BY GREENVILLE HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL
February 5, 2014**

The Greenville Human Relations Council (GHRC) met Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at 7:00 PM in the third floor conference room (Room 337) of City Hall. Members present denoted by *, members absent denoted by x.

Enji Abdo-*	Marvin Arrington-x	Isaac Blount-*
Rodney Coles-*	Loyd Horton-x	Robert Hudak -*
Byung Lee-*	Shaterica Lee-x	Prudencio Martinez-Mengel-x
Terry Parrish-*	Helen Pase-x	Franchine Pena-*
Heena Shah-*	Bonnie Snyder-*	Maurice Whitehurst-x

Rose Glover, Mayor Pro-Tem-* Cassandra Daniels, Staff Liaison-*

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December minutes were not available. The Council did not meet January 1, 2014 (holiday).

OLD BUSINESS

Anti-Racism – Institute for Dismantling Racism

Council members thought the session with Revs. Bass and Angle were great. It generated a lot of conversation. The challenge we are faced with is that we do a lot of talking about racism, but there is not a plan of action to help us move forward.

Franchine Pena stated she hope this Council can develop and set of goals that City Council can incorporate this training (institutional racism) with the City’s Inclusive Community Initiative. If we are going to impact this City we need facilitators like Bass and Angle that will help us get started with conversations and hopefully relationships will change.

Bob Hudak stated he was impressed with the number of and variety of perspectives that was expressed. The question is where do we go from here and where do we focus, because there are so many different aspects. If it is going to bring black and white people together, there has to be away of facilitating and creating an atmosphere where people will feel comfortable and secure enough to begin talking about the more difficult issues.

Rodney Coles stated the dialogue was good and it was exciting to see so many people attending the meeting. The Council needs to keep it going.....we shouldn’t start and top. Therefore once we start, the Council should have a plan in place that will assist us in keeping the conversations going.

Byung Lee stated the Council need to follow up, and have more of a diverse group to engage in conversations.

Rose Glover stated a scientific study was conducted by an ECU professor which indicated that Greenville is divided black and white. The scientific study sparked the Chamber of Commerce to create an initiative called “Building Bridges”. ECU had a program called “Coffee in the Kitchen”.

This Council has to decide what they want to do; and you may want to bring Revs. Bass and Angle back to have them discuss how get started. This could be a continuation of the City's Inclusive Community Initiative; it could help us get closer to building an inclusive community.

Rodney Coles spoke briefly about the generation of young people and how they view discrimination and racism.

Franchine Pena stated when we talk about the younger generation that's one thing. However, Revs. Bass and Angle focus is on institutional racism. For example, African Americans being college prepared and qualified for jobs and not getting them. The Council will have to decide what effort we would want to focus on and then move from there.

The Council agreed that the first step would be to invite Rev. Bass back and decide how the Council can begin to make a difference.

Rose Glover stated the National League of Cities has been talking about "racism" and is thinking about reviewing what has been accomplished. If the Council could get some of the work that has been published, it would help. Also, the Council may want to consider inviting Revs. Bass and Angles back to get some ideas on how to move forward. As Bob Hudak stated, participates may have to be broken down into small groups.

Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Rodney Coles, seconded by Franchine Pena, to invite Revs. Bass and Angle to another meeting to discuss ways the Council could move forward with creating conversations on racism. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Youth Council Resolution – Revision

Cassandra Daniels stated the resolution establishing the Youth Council has to be amended to include the new John Paul II High School, which is a private school. The following revisions were recommended:

Membership; Appointment; Terms; Compensation

Item 1(a): the names of the schools are removed.

Item 1(b) the names of the schools are removed; and that charter schools and home-schools are included.

Because the ban on charter schools for North Carolina has been lifted, there is the possibility of approximately 22 charter schools coming to Eastern North Carolina in the year of 2015. It is expected that many of the charter schools will be for elementary/middle school grade levels; however, if any charter schools come to Greenville and Pitt County for high school students, the resolution will not have to be revised.

Item 1(c): is deleted.

Item 2 is revised to read "Students wishing to serve on the Greenville Youth Council must submit an application to the City Clerk's Office. The school principal or the principal's designee must sign the application. City Council makes the appointment. City Council has the right to reject any

nomination and to request additional nominations.

A motion was made by Heena Shah, seconded by Rodney Coles to recommend the above revisions to the Greenville Youth Council resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Annual Report

Cassandra Daniels stated the Council's annual report will be given by Byung Lee to City Council on Monday, February 10, 2014. City Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers and the meeting starts at 6:00 pm.

Award Nominations

Cassandra Daniels presented nominations material to the Council. There were no nominations for the Distinguished Inclusive Community Award. After discussions regarding the nominees, the following motions and winners were selected:

Community Service Awards

A motion was made by Bob Hudak, seconded by Isaac Blount, that the following students receive the **Youth Award**: Joshua Walston, Serena Mooney and Lauren Applewhite. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Enji Abdo, seconded by Heena Shah, that Gigi Walter, receive the **Community Service Adult Award**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Franchine Pena, seconded by Bob Hudak, that Power of His Presence Ministries receives the **Community Organization Community Service Award**. Motion carried unanimously.

Best-Irons Humanitarian Awards

A motion was made by Bonnie Snyder, seconded by Franchine Pena, that Walter Strathy receives the **Best-Irons Humanitarian Citizen Award**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bob Hudak seconded by Bonnie Snyder, that Redirection CDC receives the **Best-Irons Humanitarian Corporate Award**. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Bonnie Snyder, seconded by Enji Abdo, to adjourn until the first Wednesday night in March. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra Daniels

Cassandra Daniels
Human Relations Officer