

The City of Rock Hill Community Relations Council
Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2020
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Housing & Neighborhood Services
150 Johnston Street

Attending: Ayana Crawford, Bethany Marlowe, Cynthia Ware, Gigi Anderson, Isaiah Venning, Robert Karkoski, Sierra Hughes, Shekinah Miller, Summersby Okey

City Staff: Jason Weil

Not Attending: Carlo Dawson, Dale Johnson, Darryl Cunningham, Rachel Lillibridge

Visitors:

Purpose

To promote respect, appreciation and understanding of diversity among all people in our community by promoting positive human relations and reducing discrimination, assessing and responding to the human relations needs of our community, serving as a source of information, and advocating and recognizing change to achieve our mission.

1. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Purpose Review

Called to order at 6:03 PM

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes approved with a correction to the attendance list.

3. New Business

a. Reports from sub-committee

i. Black History sub-committee

1. Art contest and coloring contest winners have been chosen.
 - a. First place Art Contest \$50 Michaels gift card
 - b. 2nd place Art Contest \$25 Michaels gift card
2. All performers have been confirmed for the event on February 20.
3. CRC members are asked to arrive by 4:30 PM. Attire is black and white accented with green, yellow, red, or African print.
4. We need 10 volunteers
 - a. Gigi is going to ask Junior Civitans to volunteer at Black History Month event.
 - b. Cynthia will email contact for volunteers from Rock Hill High.

ii. Teacher Supply Drive

1. Ayana spoke with Larry Wench from Race and Reconciliation. They are going to touch base soon.

2. We talked about the drive being a “resupply” drive for later in the school year when teachers run out of supplies.
3. We think it is too late for this school year, but we could begin collecting to present in 2021.
4. One factor we will need to consider is where we can store supplies if we collect them well before.
5. Ayana will find out about connecting with a back to school drive.

iii. MLK sub-committee

1. The caterer was excited to have the opportunity and did a great job! Attendees were very complimentary of her.
2. The committee has no critiques or areas for improvement to pass on to the caterer.
3. The caterer took an \$800 loss due to having to provide workers comp at the last minute. First Baptist and the City both require the worker’s comp, though she doesn’t usually carry the coverage due to being a small operation. She did not know that she needed to carry it until the last minute.
4. We need to make sure in the future that we include both worker’s comp and linens in the contract with the caterer in terms of what we are expecting.
5. Next year, we will need to tell her to include the cost of linens in her quote.
6. One thought for next year: the lines moved sort of slow due to the utensil provided for the fruit. A more appropriate utensil for next year can solve this problem.
7. One participant mentioned that we ran out of coffee. No one else seemed to notice that.
8. Program timing: We were a little behind because folks did not sit down at the beginning. The speaker went a little long a well.
9. We may want to think about opening the breakfast line a bit earlier next year. Folks arrive early, so it may be worth it to let them go ahead and make a plate.
10. The Mayor, council, and City Management all mentioned to Jason how great the event was.
11. We need to start thinking about nominations for MLK speakers now for next year.
12. Jason is willing to reach out to Melissa Harris-Perry for next year.

4. Old Business

a. Announcements and Concerns

- i. Bethany Marlowe is rotating off when her term ends in March. She will attend the March meeting for a proper send-off.
- ii. The City will not choose Bethany’s replacement until March 3.

- iii. We now have an open spot on the committee. We talked at the retreat about what our needs are and what we are missing on the committee. It would be great to have a Winthrop staff person on the committee.
- iv. Summersby will reach out to Kirk McSwain, a former committee member, who had to roll-off due to his coursework at Winthrop.
- v. We may also want to make sure we are being inclusive in making sure a wide variety of voices are being heard from our community.
- vi. Ayana suggested that Mark Ali may be a good person to reach out to.
- b. *City Announcements*
 - i. *According* to our bylaws, we need to nominate our officers in January. There is so much going on in January and February.
 - ii. The committee has approved the motion to change the bylaws to have our officers nominated in March, voted in April, and assume responsibilities in May. This way, any new council members will be part of the decision for the upcoming year.
 - 1. Bethany Marlowe made the motion.
 - 2. Ayana seconded the motion.
 - 3. It was approved by unanimous consent.
 - iii. We now need to make nominations at our March meeting. Nominations should be sent to Jason via email prior to the March 12 meeting.
 - iv. Jason has reached out to the Rock Hill Schools Dr. Campbell to see if Dr. Berry can be recognized for the dream keeper award at the next School Board Meeting.

5. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 PM

The next monthly CRC meeting will be held Thursday, March 12, 2020 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm, at Housing & Neighborhood Services.