

Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission
Thursday, May 11th, 2023
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m

Present: Jon Gromek, Melissa Garrett, Stacy Loejos, Jason Frederick, Tracy Greenberg, Neil Chavan, Dawn Ellis

Absent: Lise Stevens, Mary Brown, Aidan Lawrence, Marla Samko, Camille Bragg

Called to order: 6:35pm

Motion to approve the minutes: Stacy

Second: Dawn

All in favor

Mission: The Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission was established (LCO Chapter 142) in 2005 to serve in an advisory capacity for the purpose of educating, informing, and making recommendations to City officials, departments, boards and commissions on matters relating to community relations within the City of Lakewood in an effort to advance: respect for diversity, bonds of mutuality and equity.

Old Business

1. Minutes approval from last meeting

2. Community Update

a. Melissa updates that many summer events are planned. Meet the Trucks (In conjunction with Lakewood Early Childhood PTA who will promote a sensory friendly experience). Tracy requests info be sent to CCBDD parent communities. Movie schedule is out and includes 5 upcoming movies listed on the website. Other activities include Birdtown Picnic June 10th, Summer Solstice June 21st, Summer Concerts, Shakespeare Festival, 4th of July.

3. Task Force Updates

a. Jon updated that anti racism task force was accepting proposals for facilitator to establish a DEI process and initiative. They selected an organization as a consultant which is Cleveland based, black woman owned and called Equius. Tracy updated that ADA taskforce is working with a firm for transition plan and analysis of City. Awaiting a draft of the suggested items for City to address. They are developing an addendum document of items in addition to the required items such as removable barriers like improperly parked cars, scooters. Also working on recommendations in regard to store fronts along Madison and Detroit that have a step in front of their entry.

2023 Survey

1. Review of Timeline

a. Jon updates a rough timeline as follows. May-June soliciting feedback on how to change. July-August, group and subcommittees meet and finalize survey. Go live in September then close by November to launch in 2024.

2. Questionnaire sent to Mayor's office

a. Neil updates that Melissa sent link to Mayor George who will distribute to City Officials. Melissa has meeting with her tomorrow and will ask about responses.

3. Update on quarterly meeting with Mayor's office

a. Melissa suggests August then future dates TBD.

2023 Welcome to Lakewood

1. Setting of first subcommittee date

a. Jon will message Stacy about potential dates.

2. Review of agencies and community organizations to invite to table

a. Jon messaged a list of participating resources and organizations. Ideas for additional organizations who may want to attend include, Young Filmmakers Academy, Lakewood Community Services Center, Lakewood Dad's Sport's Club, Healthy Lakewood Foundation, MC3, Lakewood Neighborhood Paramedic Program, Neighborhood Patrol Officers, Cove Community Center. Organizations must be nonprofit or community group and cannot be for profit organization. City Council will have a table.

LCRAC Logo Review

1. Voted on logos created by Jason. Jon made motion to approve and adopt new logo as created by Jason. Second by Dawn. Will be added to minutes, web page. Discussed possible options to add logo to hats, buttons, etc.

Monthly City Council Meeting Review

1. LCRAC attendance at City Council Meetings

a. Goal is to have at least one LCRAC member at City Council Meetings and then give a short synopsis at LCRAC meetings.

b. Jon provided two updates from this last meeting including intro of a climate plan that would make us the first net neutral city by 2050 in the region. Jon and Jason reflected that the meeting spoke to affordability and accessibility of some of these options. Also discussed an intro of potential ordinance to address issues with auto body shops taking up city parking to the

detriment of surrounding businesses. Tracy asks if any discussion was had about the Circulator though Jon and Jason do not recall public comment regarding this.

Announcements

None

Adjourned: 7:28pm

Motion: Tracy

Second: Jason.

All in favor.

2023 Meeting Dates

No July Meeting

Thursday, August 10

Thursday, September 14

Thursday, October 12

Thursday, November 9

Thursday, December 14