

Minutes

Lakewood Community Relations Advisory Commission

June 8, 2023

Virtual meeting via Zoom

6:30pm

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.

Called to order: 6:31pm

Members Present: Camille Bragg, Dawn Ellis, Stacey Loejos, Tracy Greenberg, Jason Frederick, Marla Samko, Neil Chavan, Aidan Lawrence, Lise Stevens

City Staff: Melissa Garrett

Absent: Mary Brown, Jon Gromek

Minutes: Motion to approve with amendments- Tracy Greenberg Second: Marla Samko All approved

Amendments: Start second paragraph and capitalize ADA and Task Force, remove "addendum" from Tracy's statement

Old Business

Community Updates:

Renovated Foster Pool opened today. Expanded parking construction to begin after September pool closing, completion scheduled for 2024. Splash Pad opened at Lakewood Park. Birdtown picnic this Saturday. Taste of Lakewood from 1pm to 6pm Sunday June 11, at Studio West 117th. Friday Night Flicks start on June 9.

Task Force Updates: No update

Tracy Greenberg- ADA Task Force: First draft of transition plan from DLZ expected next week, will be published for public comment. Will go to vote after public period and incorporation of suggestions and comments. Plan looking at rights-of-way, ADA improvements in general for city accessibility to businesses, public spaces.

2023 Survey

Re-cap of process and progress thus far. Mayor George would like LCRAC to help with an emerging issue and wants to pause progress on survey at this time. Awaiting finalization of plans to engage LCRAC officially.

What is it and when will it come? Not specified for either. Possibly by the August meeting she will have more to share.

2023 Welcome to Lakewood

Stacey Loejos reports trying to confirm October 2 at 6:30 at Garfield School for this event. This month finalizing groups that will participate. Flyer by July and update email lists. Invite groups in August and advertise event. September will put announcement in water bills and reach out to groups for donations and swag. Deadline for registering for a table in September. October continues advertising with school flyers going home with kids. By next meeting should have location confirmed. Melissa reports 85% of groups that are invited do participate historically. Parameters for inclusion- nonprofit or Lakewood community group. Are we being inclusive in inviting organizations? LCRAC members should think of who we might be missing

Question from Camille Bragg: does main Lakewood library participate or just Madison branch? Melissa Garrett says usually one or the other, not both. How many volunteers from LCRAC are needed? Jason Frederick is available. Should we revive "Did You Know" about Lakewood activity? Possible to get email addresses from attendees for further engagements and events

New Business

New Member Recruitment

Jon Gromek and Camille Bragg – developing plans to get new members. Neil Chavan's last meeting is tonight- he is going to grad school. Needs to transfer ownership of Google drive. Melissa will take over in the immediate time, with a change later to Camille or Jon. Neil will leave at the end of July and will share and transfer knowledge with group before his departure.

There are 3 Commission openings- John Litten, Jason Shachner and Cindy Marks have appointments to fill. Do we know folks who are interested to recommend to Council members?

Monthly City Council Review

City Council meeting viewing by Camille Bragg: Discussion on operator for Winterhurst, 2 residents asked about Circulator status and plans for it as part of increasing accessibility. Tracy has been in meetings looking at how to have equitable resources for transportation funding for folks with disabilities who are not seniors. Continued conversation needed to address gap in services like meal delivery. LCRAC can monitor and provide support through recommendation to RTA. Other cities provide this service, maybe Lakewood can assume the cost. Historically the Lakewood circulator was heavily used and there was pushback from the City when RTA cut funding for the service.

Dawn Ellis will attend July meeting.

Tracy Greenberg shares that MetroHealth has forwarded her name as Most Treasured Volunteer and she will be on the Board for Cuyahoga County Commission on DD.

LCRAC will recess for July and resume meeting in August.

Motion to adjourn: Stacey Loejos Second: Tracy Greenberg All approved

Adjourned: 7:29pm