



AGENDA
ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
OF THE
CULTURE AND DIVERSITY CITIZENS ACTION COMMISSION
Police Division - Community Room
6121 Taylorsville Road
February 23, 2022
7:30 P.M.

1. Call Meeting to Order

February 22, 2022, meeting called to order at 7:41pm by committee chair, Rhonda Sumlin.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Tara Purvis, Rhonda L. Sumlin, and Yolanda Collins-Stephens

3. Approval of Minutes

October and November meeting minutes need to be approved. Motion made for October and November's minutes to be accepted.

A. November 2021

4. Citizen's Comments

No citizens present for comment. Moving forward.

5. Old Business

A. Initiatives for 2022

1. Healthcare Equity in the Heights

Ms. Sumlin suggested that goals be brainstormed for healthcare equity initiative so that something can be formalized to present to commission for better understanding. The vision for 2022 Healthcare Initiative is to provide education and awareness to the city leadership and the greater community. Ms. Sumlin suggested that maybe the community partner with an already existing clinic and see what they are already doing. The other council members need a better understanding of how they can create more equity in the city.

Ms. Sumlin mentioned lack of access to care, doctors not accepting managed care and Medicare/Medicaid, a lack of providers, partnership with the Huber Heights community health clinic now that it exists to avoid a duplication of services. Ms. Sumlin mentioned that anyone that attended our last forum, before the policing forum, “Racism is a Public Health Crisis”, is now aware of some of the disparities and inequities that people of color face. Creating education and awareness that these issues exist in the community is important.

Ms. Sumlin stated the educating the leaders was huge, because it was stated at the last forum, some were unaware of the inequities faced by people of color. Ms. Sumlin referenced an attendee, who shared a personal health experience at the last forum, that connected the dots between her experiences and imagined what it would be like for someone who didn’t have access to the same resources.

Ms. Collins-Stephens mentioned that doing an activity called, “The Cost of Poverty” would be a great experiment. COP is an experiment where people must go through what other people go through in daily life (access to healthcare, jobs, etc.).

Ms. Sumlin shared a healthcare experience, relative to the cost of her daughter’s healthcare. What happens when people must go through a real-life health experience, given a random profile. How do people go through the experience?

Ms. Purvis mentioned that the board couldn’t take on managed care at a local level, but we could help make things more equitable to support stop-gap services but not federally run healthcare as a 9-member commission or 3-member committee.

Ms. Sumlin mentioned that we need our local officials to not just occupy seats but should be working with senators and state leadership to bring light to some of these healthcare inequities/issues.

Ms. Purvis mentioned that the focus for 2022 comes back to education and that health inequity is a poverty and minority issue, a belief system that certain people deserve to have a certain quality of healthcare because of their position in life. Ms. Purvis mentioned partnering with that new Community Health Center to do a Health Fair for Make a Difference Day.

Ms. Sumlin mentioned that one of the takeaways from the Ahmaud Arbery Case was that looking at hate crimes and looking at racism and discrimination is about teaching people how to be better neighbors. Ms. Sumlin mentioned that if you don't care that someone else doesn't live the same life you live, doesn't have access to the same resources you have, if you're able to turn your key and not care that somebody's living under a bridge, you're not really being a good neighbor or a good citizen. An “education piece” because we could all be there.

Ms. Sumlin mentioned making our educational forums more inclusive to include not just people from Academia but all walks of life, to gain varying perspectives (33% of underserved groups).

Ms. Purvis mentioned the importance of getting the perspective of our nine-member commission on some of the discussion we are having within our three-member commission. Mentioned how she would like to see something done with the senior center.

Ms. Stephens explained more about how the cost of poverty exercise and how it works.

Ms. Sumlin suggested creating a resource guide that is more inclusive of all members of our community. Ms. Purvis mentioned that the forms could possibly be translated in any language that was needed. Ms. Stephens suggested a Montgomery County resource guide that could possibly be updated.

Ms. Sumlin says she cannot separate her lived experience from her role on the commission because that's what brought everyone to the commission in the first place. Ms. Purvis asks, "what can we do commission wise, without having a veiled lens, to ensure that other community members, as well as you, don't have to experience any of that?". Ms. Sumlin responds that she doesn't expect the commission to focus on only one demographic of people. Ms. Purvis claims that the commission appears that way.

Ms. Sumlin states that we need to put people out front to represent this commission that are passionate and not trying to put a tick on their resume.

2. Make A Difference Day

6. New Business

- A. Acknowledgement of the 2 Year Anniversary of Ahmaud Aubery's Death
- B. Chair for Advocacy Committee
- C. Culture Week - Monday, July 20, 2022 - Minority Health Fair

7. Adjournment