
African American Cultural Center Community Advisory Committee Meeting #5

MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, June 25, 2019
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Expo Arts Center
4321 Atlantic Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90807

Attendance:

Co-Chairs: Erroll Parker, Program Director, Success in Challenges, Inc.; Max Viltz, Owner, Village Treasures

Working Group Members: Nicole Ballard, President, African American Heritage Society of Long Beach; Monte B. Beard, Sr., Long Beach NAACP Executive Committee; Darcelle Bradley; Charles Brown, Vice President, Non-Profit Sector, Lyde Enterprises; Gerald Burford, Member, 100 Black Men of Long Beach, Inc.; LaVerne Duncan, Executive Director, Andy Street Community Association; Carl Kemp; Sharon Mclucas, Owner, Forgotten Images; Ahmed Saafir, Chair, Long Beach Community Improvement League; Sakkara Thomas, Founding President, Queens Historical Society, Inc.; Dr. Felton Williams, Board Member, Long Beach Unified School District; Dr. Leon Wood Jr., President, Success in Challenges, Inc.

Community Advisors: Ryan Ballard, Board Member, African American Heritage Society of Long Beach; Dr. Minnie Douglas, Community Volunteer; Sarah Fitzgerald, Museum Curator and Educator; Gregory Johnson, Managing Director, DreamKreator Studio; Pamela A. Lewis, Director, Community Partnerships and Student Success Initiatives, California State University, Long Beach; Glenda Williams, Director of Library Services, City of Long Beach

Staff members: Kevin Jackson, Deputy City Manager, City of Long Beach; Tracy Colunga, Innovation Director, City of Long Beach; Joy Bailey Bryant, Lord Cultural Resources; Kathleen Brown, Lord Cultural Resources; Tasha W. Hunter, Wiggins Hunter Consulting; Alan Burks, Environ Architecture, Inc.; Alvin Teng, Management Assistant, City of Long Beach

1. Welcome and Introductions

Co-chairs Erroll Parker and Max Viltz called the meeting to order at 4:28pm.



2. Asset Inventory Subcommittee Update

Laverne Duncan provided an update on the work the Asset Inventory Subcommittee has conducted so far. The Subcommittee's purpose statement is: "To research and compile local African American cultural assets and resources that focus on history, in order to support and enhance the larger asset inventory and contribute to the community visioning process."

Subcommittee members presented their findings on a number of relevant historical figures, including John R. Barner, Dr. Ebenezer Bush, Mary Butler, Carl Cohn, Ernest McBride, Laura Richardson, Doris Topsy-Elvord, Marcus Tucker, Charles Ussery, and James Wilson.

Dr. Leon Wood suggested that the Subcommittee focus also on athletics. Co-Chair Parker requested that Committee members contact the Subcommittee if there are any other suggestions.

3. Fund Development Subcommittee Update

Sharon McLucas presented an update on the work that the Fund Development Subcommittee has conducted so far. The Subcommittee was able to secure an agreement with the Long Beach Education Foundation to serve as a fiscal agent for an administrative fee of 5%.

The Co-Chairs entertained a motion to approve the following mission statement for the Fund Development Subcommittee: "As a Committee of the Board of Directors, help the Board carry out its due diligence function related to assuring fiscal health through philanthropy and fund development.", moved by Sharon McLucas and seconded by Carl Kemp. The motion passed unanimously with 13 yes votes.

The Co-Chairs entertained a motion to authorize the Fund Development Subcommittee to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Long Beach Education Foundation to serve as the Fiscal Agent of the African American Cultural Center, moved by Sharon McLucas and seconded by Carl Kemp. Conversation ensued about the Long Beach Education Fund and LBCAP as potential fiscal agents.

LaVerne Duncan asked how the Subcommittee reached this recommendation. Dr. Felton Williams gave a history of the Long Beach Education Fund, and noted that connecting the African American Cultural Center to the LB College Promise would allow access to important resources. These resources include business partners, LBUSD students, teachers, and families, university research, and others.

Ryan Ballard asked if LBCAP had an opportunity to counter LBEF's offer. Co-Chair Viltz noted that LBCAP could only go as low as 12% for the administrative fee, but that there is an option to continue partnering with LBCAP in the future.

The motion passed with 10 yes votes, 3 abstained.



The Co-Chairs entertained a motion to direct the Fund Development Subcommittee to research and pursue the necessary actions to establish a non-profit 501c3 organization, which may include associated fees and costs up to \$3500, moved by Sharon McLucas and seconded by Ahmed Saafir. The motion passed with 10 yes votes, 3 abstained.

4. Mission Statement Subcommittee

Carl Kemp presented an update on the work of the Mission Statement Subcommittee, including researching many other mission statements for other African American Cultural Centers and collaborating to create a clear and concise Mission Statement.

The Co-Chairs entertained a motion to approve the following Mission Statement: "Our mission is to celebrate, cultivate, and advance the enrichment of the heritage and culture of the Black/African American community in Long Beach and beyond.", moved by Carl Kemp and seconded by Sharon McLucas. The motion passed with 10 yes votes, 3 abstained.

5. Vision Confirmation Workshop

Joy Bailey Bryant and Kathleen Brown of Lord Cultural Resources facilitated an interactive workshop with the Committee to develop priorities for the Operating Vision of the African American Cultural Center. Tasha W. Hunter provided a recap of the outcomes from the Community Engagement process. Joy Bailey Bryant then provided a presentation on the context of Museums and Cultural Centers, as well as four case studies of other African American cultural spaces. Committee Members then participated in small group discussions to prioritize components of the African American Cultural Center in Long Beach.

Presentation Slides from Lord Cultural Resources can be found on the AACC Website (<Link>).

6. Public Comment

No public comment.

7. Committee Comment

No Committee comment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

