

MINUTES

Rosenwald Community Advisory Board

Thursday, March 16, 2023 - 6:00 PM
Mary C. Jenkins Community & Cultural Center

Members Present:

Randy Lytle, Co-Chair, President MCJCC Board
Gary Daniel, Council Member
Susan Threlkel, Citizen Member
Victor Foster, Citizen Member
Edith Darity, Citizen Member

Members Absent:

Maurice Jones, Co-Chair, Council Member
Karen Darity, Citizen Member

Staff Present:

Wilson Hooper, City Manager
Tyree Griffin, Community Center Director
Denise Hodsdon, City Clerk

Guest:

Stephen Rapp, Artist

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Co-Chair Randy Lytle welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

B. Invocation

Mr. Foster offered an invocation.

C. Certification of Quorum

Quorum was certified by City Clerk Denise Hodsdon.

D. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Lytle asked to add an item regarding Mary C. Jenkins concerns. Motion by Ms. Threlkel, seconded by Mr. Foster to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes of January 19, 2023 Meeting

Motion by Mr. Daniel, seconded by Mr. Foster to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Moms Mabley Statue – Stephen Rapp

Mr. Hooper reported that the Board's request to locate the statue at the MCJCCC to the Downtown Master Plan Committee, but then discovered that that committee is only charged with overseeing art in downtown. Since this center is outside of downtown, the ultimate approval authority falls with City Council and they have asked the committees to review art proposals for appropriateness. If the Board finds this proposal agreeable, we will take it to the full Council for final approval. He added that the Downtown Master Plan Committee is supportive of locating the statue at MCJCCC.

Mr. Hooper asked Stephen Rapp if he had any objections to locating the statue here instead of Clemson Plaza. Mr. Rapp said he had no objection, but noted that whoever pays for the sculpture will want to have a say on where it goes. Mr. Rapp then presented his proposal for a bronze sculpture of Moms Mabley. He said he has studied Moms Mabley and feels that she is a national treasure who should be memorialized. He noted that the most important thing about a bronze statue memorial of an individual is the gesture. He has begun working on clay studies of different gestures. He said that bronze is an expensive medium and he has received funding to begin the studies. He is at the point now where he needs to go to the next financial step and that will determine the timing. He said he is pretty confident that the big expense of the foundry will be covered. He is looking for general support and approval to proceed so he can solicit funding to make this happen in a timely manner. Mr. Hooper suggested that he and staff continue to work with Mr. Rapp to explore the funding possibilities and how they differ based on location, with an eye toward having the statue at MCJCCC if the funding works out.

At the end of the meeting Mr. Daniel noted that Mr. Rapp had said that the funding drives the location of the statue and we need to be aware of that. If his funding source wants the statue to be in Clemson Plaza, would this board be okay with that if it were approved? There was consensus that the board would prefer it to be located in the Rosenwald Community, but if it came down to either Clemson Plaza or nothing, we want it there.

G. Committee Vision/Mission/Goals

Mr. Hooper presented some possible vision and mission statements and goals using some of the key words provided by the Board at the last meeting. Following review and discussion, Mr. Daniel moved, seconded by Ms. Threlkel to adopt the following vision and mission statements:

- Vision Statement: Unifying the voices of the Rosenwald Community with local leaders
- Mission Statement: To provide a conduit through which the voices and concerns of the Rosenwald Community are transmitted to local officials, and to be a sounding board for public officials on matters that impact Rosenwald

The motion carried unanimously.

H. Committee Member Staggered Terms

This item was postponed. Mr. Hooper noted that the committee recruitment period for this and other committees has been extended for another month. He encouraged the MCJCC Board to decide, of their four appointments, who they want to be 2-year appointments and who they want to be 1-year appointments. The other two seats are for at-large community members. Mr. Hooper explained that if a current MCJCC Board member is not reappointed by the MCJCC Board, that member will need to apply for one of the at-large seats.

I. MCJCC Concerns


Mr. Lytle asked for an update on the punch list for the community center. Mr. Hooper said we have made some progress such as the outside lighting and some other small maintenance projects. There are some items remaining on the list and Mr. Griffin has contacted the contractor but they have not yet been back to work on those items. Mr. Hooper said we can get Public Works crews to do the things that they can do. Mr. Daniel noted that the punch list is part of the contractor doing business and if we are fixing items on that list, we should send them a bill. He also pointed out that there is a crack in the tile in the men's restroom from the floor to the ceiling that he feels is a serious structural concern.

J. Set Date for Next Meeting

The April meeting was canceled. The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the Mary C. Jenkins Community & Cultural Center.

K. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

X 
Randy Lytle Maurice Jones
Co-Chair

Minutes Approved: May 18, 2023

X 
Denise Hodsdon,
City Clerk