



**CITY OF WORCESTER**  
**CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

**CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, April 30, 2019 6:30 PM - Levi Lincoln Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall**

Present: District 1, Martin Shanahan, Chairperson  
District 4, Jesse Gibson, Vice Chairperson  
District 2, Ken Asafo-Adjei  
District 2, Rachel Brown  
District 3, Davis Asare  
District 4, Benetta Kuffour  
District 5, Carol Stovall

Excused: District 1, Gerardo Schiano  
At-Large, Christine Greenawalt

Guests: Brandan Donahue, Student Worcester State University  
Aaron Richman, Chairperson, Human Rights Commission  
Elizabeth O'Callahan, Member, Human Rights Commission

Staff: Jeannie Michelson, City Manager's Office  
Pamela Callahan, Human Resources Department  
Jayna Turchek, Director, Human Rights and Disabilities Office

1. Marty called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.
2. Marty asked if anyone had questions or comments about the minutes from 3/27/19.
3. Rachel motioned to accept the minutes from 3/27/19 and Jesse 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor. Minutes of 3/27/19 were approved.
4. SMART Goals:
  - a. Letters
    - i. College Letter: Marty talked about mailing the letter to the colleges over the summer in an effort to get in to present in the fall. He wants to focus on sending the letter through the college president's office to the government liaison. Marty will send an electronic copy of the letter to Jeannie to be included on the next agenda.
    - ii. Letter to Religious Organizations: Jesse and Ken revised the letter to religious organizations inviting them to attend a meeting of the CAC. Jesse will send an electronic copy of the letter to Jeannie to be included on the next agenda.
      1. Jesse and Ken will work on getting the contact information for each religious organization.
  - b. TV/Radio:
    - i. Jeannie is securing a date with Bill Coleman for Jesse and Gerardo to be on his TV show.
  - c. Meetings:

- i. Neighborhood Watch:
    - 1. Jesse will ask at the next meeting about doing a presentation
  - ii. Black Clergy:
    - 1. Benetta said that her church wants to do a presentation for their congregation. Benetta will get a couple dates so that other CAC members may present with her. The church requires at least a 30-day notice. Jesse will try to help.
- d. Tabling Opportunities:
  - i. Out to Lunch: Jeannie will provide the schedule of out to lunch dates when they become available.
  - ii. Jeannie to check on availability/cost of tabling the Start on the Street/Station.
- 5. Discussion: Eligibility criteria for applicants
  - a. Marty invited guests to speak about this item.
    - i. Aaron Richman appealed to the CAC to have the registered voter requirement removed.
    - ii. Mr. Richman quoted statistics from other municipalities
    - iii. Marty asked Aaron to provide his statistics in writing to the CAC, including siting the specific resource.
- 6. Some board members were against changing the requirement an others were in favor, but many expressed that more information, including legal and public opinion, was needed before a vote could be taken.
- 7. Discussion with board members on the voting requirement resulted in the following vote:
  - a. Marty made a motion to request that the City Solicitor provide answers to the questions from tonight and the questions from last year in writing and/or appear before the CAC by the June CAC meeting.
    - i. Rachel 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.
    - ii. VOTE: 7-0, In favor of requesting that the City Solicitor provide answers to the questions from tonight and the questions from Feb. 2018 in writing and/or appear before the CAC by the June 19<sup>th</sup> CAC business meeting.
      - Questions from tonight include:
        - 1. Ask the City Solicitor to consider the duties of employees and boards and commissions with respect to why they would be held to different standards for registering to vote.
        - 2. Ask the City Solicitor if the registered voter requirement could be removed for boards that are classified as advisory and left in place for policy making boards.
        - 3. Ask the City Solicitor if the CAC have the power to make any changes.
- 8. The next meeting is a selection meeting on **Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 6:30pm** in the Levi Lincoln Jr. Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall.
- 9. Carol made a motion to adjourn. Jesse 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.
- 10. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

/jmm

Approved: 5/22/19