



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

BRONZEVILLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

LASHAWANDRA VERNON, CHAIR

Deshea Agee, Vice-Chair

**Terrence Acquah, Theresa Garrison, Anthony Smith, and
Baboonie Tatum, Rayhainio Boynes**

Staff Assistant, Chris Lee, 286-2232, Fax: 286-3456,

clee@milwaukee.gov

Legislative Liaison, Tea Norfolk, 286-8012,

tea.norfolk@milwaukee.gov

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

9:00 AM

Virtual Meeting

This will be a virtual meeting conducted via GoToMeeting. Should you wish to join this meeting from your phone, tablet, or computer you may go to <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/960942661>. You can also dial in using your phone United States: +1 (646) 749-3122 and Access Code: 960-942-661.

Present 7 - Agee, Agee, Garrison, Vernon, Boynes, Smith and Tatum

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Present 7 - Boynes, Agee, Vernon, Acquah, Garrison, Smith, Tatum

2. Introduction of new membership.

New members Acquah and Agee made brief introductions.

Member Acquah said that he would be a liaison from the Dept. of City Development to the committee replacing Rhonda Manuel.

Member Agee said that he was representing the Historic King Drive Business Improvement District and replaced Eve Hall.

3. Review and approval of the previous meeting minutes.

Meeting minutes from October 23, 2019 were approved without objection.

4. Election of a chair and vice-chair.

This item was taken up last at the meeting.

Vice-chair Boynes moved to nominate member Vernon for chair due to her vocal

commitment and concern for Bronzeville. Member Smith seconded.

Vice-chair Boynes moved to nominate member Agee for vice-chair due to his vast knowledge of Bronzeville and the inner workings of projects and processes both on the private and city sides. Member Smith seconded.

Members Vernon and Agee accepted their nominations. There was no objection.

Member Vernon elected as chair, and member Agee elected as vice-chair.

Chair Vernon said that she would like the committee to discuss at the next meeting its ability to vet new members prior to their appointments becoming official on the committee and that such evaluation would help ensure the appropriateness of new appointments made.

Mr. Lee said that the Common Council presently makes the final decision on membership appointments to the advisory committee and that the appointment authority for the advisory committee comes from the Mayor's Office, 6th aldermanic office, and the Common Council president.

Vice-chair Agee added that the majority, if not all, of the advisory committee membership was vetted by Ald. Milele Coggs thus far.

5. Bronzeville RFPs, listings, projects, programs, initiatives, events, grants, activities, or updates.

A. Bronzeville Week

*Appearing:
Akuwa Dantzler, 6th Ald. Dist.*

Ms. Dantzler and members commented on Bronzeville Week as follows:

There were many challenges and cancellation of major events this year due to the pandemic. However, the event this year was able to be held virtually. Members Vernon, Boynes, and Agee had participated in some events in some capacity. Events included a session with congresswoman Gwen Moore; makeup tutorial; discussion on the history of Bronzeville; Harambee walk and run; concert; discussion on politics; By the Block conversation on citizen ownership of issues; artist spotlight promoting artists and businesses; cash mob that highlighted businesses and awarded participating businesses with \$600; Juneteenth Day mural restoration project; and drive-in movie night with many safety precautions implemented. The production value of events seemed to be better than before. There is footage of the many activities that can be accessed on the Bronzeville website and Facebook page. There is dialogue with City Channel 25 to perhaps put the event videos on YouTube, as suggested by member Smith.

B. DCD Commercial Corridor grants

Member Acquah said that there were no grant applications to bring to the committee for review and there had only been inquiries made recently.

C. TOD Plan recommendations related to public arts

Member Acquah said that there were staff changes and he would try to obtain the right staff and information to bring to the committee on the matter.

D. Other

Member Acquah shared to the committee that there was a filmmaker who was interested to solicit input from the committee for a video project depicting neighborhoods in Milwaukee, including Bronzeville. The filmmaker had made his inquiry via the Bronzeville website.

Member Acquah asked the committee how to handle inquiries from vendors made on the Bronzeville website?

Members said that they wanted the filmmaker to appear before the committee to give more insight on the project; they would like to provide input, recommendations, and ask questions to the filmmaker; they would like the committee to be part of the filmmaking vetting process; the project needs to feature the African American community; the project needs to include community input; the committee meeting with the filmmaker should be recorded with his knowledge, and inquiries made on the Bronzeville website should be referred to the advisory committee as appropriate.

6. Review of criteria, scoring, and evaluation rubric relative to committee recommendations.

Appearing:

Amy Turim, Dept. of City Development

Jeremy McKenzie, City Attorney's Office

Ms. Turim said that the rubric was created to help convey to the committee information regarding RFP submittals, for the committee to compare and evaluate those submittals, and for the committee to establish its own evaluation criteria for consistent review.

Members said that the rubric should include a section on community input and meetings and a criteria on adherence to the identity of Bronzeville,

After discussion Ms. Turim, Atty. McKenzie, and members said that the term "utilization" should replace the term "occupancy" for the committee's first unique criteria of the rubric due to legal concerns with the term "occupancy".

Member Vernon moved to amend the rubric to replace the term "occupancy" with "utilization" for the first committee unique criteria regarding local community representation and/or inclusion. Member Smith seconded. There was no objection.

Members inquired about development contracting or apprenticeship inclusion requirements for local community residents, asked for a list of agencies who were outperforming their requirements, said that credit should be given to those outperforming agencies, and said that a listing of those outperforming agencies should be shared at next year's Bronzeville Week.

Ms. Turim said that Resident Preference Participation (RPP) and Small Business Enterprise (SBE) requirements are required on City-financed projects, some developers voluntarily do RPP and SBE requirements on projects, the Office of Small Business Development (OBSD) should come present to the committee on RPP and SBE, and

perhaps OBSD can provide a list of those outperforming agencies.

There was no closed session.

7. Announcements.

Member Smith announced that the Marcus Performing Arts Center, through registration and a small fee on its website, is hosting a film documentary on Congressman John Lewis from September 3rd to 21st and an online panel discussion on September 21st. Further information to be sent to the committee.

8. Set next meeting date(s) and time(s).

Members said to resume meetings monthly contingent on consistent commitment from members and for meetings to ideally occur on either Monday or Wednesday mornings.

Next meeting to be determined perhaps for the week of October 19th.

9. Set agenda items for the next meeting.

Next agenda items to include the neighborhood video project including Bronzeville, presentation from OBSD on RPP and SBE, and review of the committee membership appointment making process.

10. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

*Chris Lee, Staff Assistant
Council Records Section
City Clerk's Office*