

Aurora Civic Engagement Commission

Regular Meeting

May 3rd, 2023 (6pm – 8pm)

Aurora Municipal Center

4th Floor, Sand Creek Room

15151 E Alameda Pkwy, Aurora CO 80012

Attendees

Commissioners: Corbari, Moore (Chair), and Rosen (Vice Chair).

City Staff: Harris, Rael-Trujillo

1. Call to Order (6:05pm)

2. Roll Call

- Present: Corbari, Moore (Chair), and Rosen (Vice Chair)
- Absent: Holen and Kelly

3. Officers Report

- Discussion of community response to property taxes, water conservation efforts/stage 1 drought, and increase in violence. Commissioners will identify issues that need direct attention. Break-out committee is needed to frame and respond to these issues to find solutions and share with community in new ways.

4. Minutes Approval

- Tabled to next meeting

5. Public Comment

- Corbari – Suggested we move meeting to public places to engage more residents, increase turn out, and raise awareness.
- Commissioners are going to work within their own social networks to distribute information about events, opportunities, and get community feedback.
- CEC Commissioner would like to start reaching out to other boards and commissions to get a better “cross pollination” between groups and understanding of where untapped resources.
- Moore would like to invite other commissioners to our meetings

6. Civic Engagement Academy Discussion

- City Update from Harris
 - Application created based on Commerce City. Tried to make it as accessible as possible for residents.
 - Age extended to those 14+
 - Harris will send Press Release, Application, Schedule, and anything else he has completed
 - Water Tour added to the schedule
 - Council Member Lawson is happy with the progress and outline
 - CEA Meet and Greet scheduled for July 12th
 - CEC Commissioners are asked to attend. More details to follow.

7. Commissioners Discussion

- Attracting new candidates – Commissioner discussion on next round of interviews and identifying the right candidates.

- Commissioner Outreach
 - Find and vetted Candidates – the interviewing process is very time consuming and uses a lot of resources. Commissioners agree they will work to find viable candidates.
 - a. Moore asked commissioners to bring 3 suggestions to the next meeting of candidates they think would be a good fit
 - b. Bring these recommendations to the City staff for review and interview.
 - c. Ask around in personal circles to find new candidates
- New Materials to develop: The application process was discussed as possible barrier to candidates and alternatives were suggested. For the next round of candidates
 - a. Paper application based on Youth Commission
 - b. Outreach material with QR code
 - c. Soft (Very Basic) Application
- Youth Outreach: To better reflect and the community, Commissioners would like to engage and attract youth the commission. Commissioners discussed this need and agreed to bring ideas to next meeting.

8. Old News, New News, Initiatives, Next meeting

- Old News:
 - Commission discussion on increasing engagement in general
 - Group discussed identifying easy ways for residents to get involved and how they can disseminate information
 - a. Opportunities to increase exposure to events, vacancies, etc: Social media, emails, and community events.
- Initiatives
 - Commissioners are tasked to look at successful community programs and become a cheerleader for these.
 - Let CEC and City Council know of good programs, project, and initiatives you see. This is a primary objective of this commission
 - Identify projects in other communities that can be implemented here.
- Corbari motioned to add “City Staff Update” to the regular agenda.
 - All were in favor, with none abstaining; no discussion.
- **Next Meeting:** May Study Session – 5/24 6pm, Meet and Greet for new commissioners – Abbreviated Agenda.

9. Meeting Adjourned 7:24pm

Minutes Recorded By: Ama Hapke Rosen