

Minutes

**African American Heritage Commission
Of Asheville and Buncombe County
December 11, 2014
6th Floor Training Room, City Hall**

Members Present: Angel Redmond, Isaac Coleman, Al Whitesides, Phyllis Utley, Sasha Mitchell, Marvin Chambers

Council Liaison: Councilman Chris Pelly (absent)

Staff: Roderick Simmons, Steve Garrison, Judith Scott

Vice Chairperson Chambers called the meeting to order at 11:41 AM.

1. Approval of the November Minutes: Vice Chair commission member Marvin Chambers motioned to approve the November minutes. Commission member Isaac Coleman approved. Commission Member Sasha Mitchell seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.
2. New Business
 - a. Election of Chairperson: Vice Chair Chambers asked about the position and duty of the chairperson. The chairperson organizes and performs the leadership role of commission and follows up with council.
Vice Chair Chambers called for nominations. Commission member Sasha Mitchell nominated herself. Commission member Al Whitesides nominated Marvin Chambers. There was a motion to close nominations and all members were in favor.
Roderick Simmons ran the election. Sasha Mitchell received four votes. Marvin Chambers received two votes. Sasha Mitchell is the chairperson. Marvin Chambers remains the vice chair.
 - b. Discussion and Recommendation for Vacate Commission Seats: There are two vacancies. Commission member Al Whitesides walked out of the proceedings stating make it three. However, there is no resignation letter at this time.
Vice Chair Chambers stated we are spending more time selecting people rather than moving the commission's agenda. He feels that's Commission member Al Whitesides left because we aren't making progress.
The commission would like the opportunity to vet the candidates. Chairperson Mitchell will schedule a special meeting for commission members to interview candidates. Isaac Coleman approved having a special meeting for interviews. Angel Redmond seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Vice Chair Chambers recommend Viola Spells. Commission member Phyllis Utley seconded it. The recommendation passed with all in favor.

Chairperson Mitchell recommended Roy Harris. Commission member Angel Redmond seconded. Commission members approved with Isaac Coleman abstaining.

Vice chair Chambers asked when we have to have something to council. Roderick Simmons responded sometime in January it needs to go before council.

- c. Chairperson Mitchell has compiled documentation of goals and plans of other commissions. We are able to make changes and amend the plan. Steve Garrison recommended getting the documentations to Alex Carmichael for distribution to commission members.

3. New Business

No new business

Meeting adjourned at 12:08.

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