

## ***Proceedings of the City of Joliet Community Relations Advisory Board held on September 27, 2017***

COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING of the City of Joliet, Illinois was held on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 5:28 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room, 150 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois.

### **1. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Cornel Darden Jr., R. Dale Evans, Wayne Horne, Garland Mays, Burneva McCullum.

ABSENT: Lonnie Posley, Betty Washington, Raychel Wesley

ALSO PRESENT: Ken Mihelich – Director of Administrative Services, Brian Benton – Police Chief, Joe Formhals – Fire Chief

### **2. DISCUSSION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT RECRUITMENT OUTREACH**

Fire Chief Joe Formhals gave a brief overview of the department's outreach efforts to increase participation as part of the development of a new Fire Department hiring list. He mentioned they developed special mailers, cards and posters which were distributed to area churches, community centers, schools and other Joliet area institutions. Advertising included Facebook, newspapers, specialized websites, digital billboards, radio and other methods. The department also held informational meetings at Joliet Junior College, the Hartmann Center and Bicentennial Park. Recruiting visits were made to numerous colleges in Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee. The Chief then addressed several questions, and indicated an Explorer program is being planned for the future to increase awareness of these employment opportunities for area youth.

Ken Mihelich added the Police and Fire Board removed the paramedic requirement and adjusted preference points associated with the process. He pointed out that the outreach and changes resulted in more candidates with higher percentages of women, African-Americans and Hispanics in the candidate pool. The Board requested demographic information related to other City Departments.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Advisory Board was made by Burneva McCullum.

Motion seconded by Cornel Darden Jr.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Cornel Darden, Jr., Wayne Horne,  
Garland Mays, Burneva McCullum.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: R. Dale Evans

#### **4. DEVELOPMENT OF MISSION STATEMENT**

The Board reviewed the mission statement as stated on the City's website. The Board questioned whether the definition of protected classes in the statement were up to date. They asked for the City's HR/Legal Departments to perform a review of Federal and State definitions, and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

#### **5. ESTABLISH 2017-2018 MEETING SCHEDULE**

The Board discussed different options with respect to frequency and start time. After some discussion they decided to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. for the remainder of 2017. These dates are October 18<sup>th</sup>, November 15<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup>. They will revisit the frequency and times at the December meeting for 2018.

#### **6. NEW OR OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Evans noted Vice-Chairman Posley will be stepping down from the Board. He will work with the Mayor about filling the open positions on the Board. There was a discussion of what the next steps were for the Board. There was interest in continuing to review City hiring practices in the Police and other City Departments as well as reviewing the hiring of minority contractors for City contracts. There was also a brief discussion of how the Board may interact with the City Council's Diversity Committee to get their message across.

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Wayne Horne at 6:28 p.m.  
Motion seconded by Burneva McCullum.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Cornel Darden, Jr., R. Dale Evans,  
Wayne Horne, Garland Mays, Burneva  
McCullum.

NAYS: None.

Minutes taken by Ken Mihelich