

M I N U T E S

**MICHIGAN CITY
COMMISSION ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF
AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES**

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Commissioners Present:

Marty Corley
Charles Dowdell
Joan Ganschow
Curtis Jackson
Willie Milsap
Lester Norvell
Arthur Payne
James Stemmler
Rebecca Williams

Commissioners Absent:

Thomas Alevizos - Absent
Albertine Allen – Absent/Excused
Ta-Tanisha Clark – Absent
Ron Meer - Absent

Others Present:

Bart Lombard Access LaPorte County
Andy Steele Access LaPorte County

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Payne called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was taken and it was noted for the record Commissioners Alevizos, Allen, Clark and Meer were not present. The status of each absence is noted above. It was noted for the record that there was a quorum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Acceptance of minutes from the July 2006 and August 2006 meeting

The approval of minutes for the July 2006 and August 2006 meetings was tabled until further notice. It was noted for the record that Ms. Albertine Allen, commission secretary, is currently recovering from a medical emergency. She is expected to be on medical leave until the end of the year.

The Chair asked if Commissioner Ganschow would send a card and/or a plant to Commissioner Allen. Commissioner Ganschow stated she would take care of it.

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9/06/06

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Corley reported that the commission currently has \$0.00 dollars. The Chair reported that the commission's request to be given a budget was unsuccessful. Commissioner Milsap explained why the decision was made not to give the commission monies out of the general fund. The general fund is set up to finance the city departments. The Commission is not a city department and therefore could not be included in the departmental budgets.

The Chair informed the commission that a meeting would be set up with Mayor Oberlie to discuss other possible funding means.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Criminal Justice and Corrections:

The chair of the Criminal Justice and Corrections committee gave a verbal report. Commissioner Ganschow informed the commission that she is researching an issue regarding the possibility of the Indiana Department of Corrections exercising control over the county jail system. She stated she would provide a more in-depth report at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males has canceled its annual conference. The decision was made to cancel the conference after the rate of violent deaths in the city of Indianapolis reached 101. Personnel who were working on the conference were asked to use their time and energies to finding solutions to the alarming increase in violence in the city. Of the 101 persons killed, 55 were African-American males.

The ICSSBM has asked that all support be redirected to the Men of Color Leadership Conference to be held at Indiana University on November 2, 2006 through November 4, 2006. Information about the conference can be found at:

<http://www.iub.edu/~moc/index.html>.

