



COMMITTEE REPORT



JOINT EDUCATION AND SPECIAL CALLED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOEL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2022 | 1:00 PM
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

COUNCILOR J.T. MOORE, COMMITTEE CHAIR
COUNCILORS DARRELL O’QUINN & CLINTON WOODS, MEMBERS

Councilor(s) Present: Moore, O’Quinn, WOODS

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Councilor J. T. Moore.

II. INVOCATION

Councilor Moore opened the Meeting with Prayer.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES – February 21, 2022

Action Taken:

Councilor O’Quinn Motioned to Approve the Minutes.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

The February 21, 2022 Committee Meeting Minutes were Approved as Recorded.

IV. PRESENTATION

Scholars for Justice – Cristal Brister

Ms. Brister presented, via Power Point, an overview of the Scholars for Justice Program and an upcoming event scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 2022.

Scholars for Justice (SFJ) is a Legislative Theatre project, where a student-created play is the vehicle for interacting with the broader Birmingham community (policy-makers, community members, other students) with the ultimate goal of generating policy ideas by the students. These "policies" may be formal or informal.

- Legislative Theatre brings a forum play in front of an audience of policy-makers and the impacted community with the intent to develop policy ideas generated by the impacted community.
- Weekly sessions are held with students to help them explore social justice issues that are important to them: Social justice issues in the community
- It helps the students develop their social emotional skills building, as well as provide an opportunity for them to communicate their voices.

A Scholars for Justice: A Legislative Theatre Event is scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 2022.

- The Advocacy Fair will take place at 11:00 a.m.
- The Legislative Theatre Event is scheduled for 12:00 p.m.
- Ramsay High School’s Youth and Government Club will serve as the host for the event at Ramsay High School.
- To learn more about the program: bit.ly/scholarsforjustice or by email at cristal@cristalbrister.com

Action Taken:

Councilors O’Quinn and Moore stated that the Birmingham City Council Citizen’s Handbook is available as a viable resource for the organization.

No Action Taken – The Committee received the Presentation as Information Only.

Alabama Possible – Manisha Mishra

Ms. Mishra presented, via Power Point, an overview of Alabama Possible.

Alabama Possible is a statewide nonprofit organization that breaks down barriers to prosperity through advocacy, education, and collaboration.

MINUTES

For nearly 30 years, we have transformed how people think and talk about economic opportunity and educational attainment in Alabama and beyond. Education is the road to a better life, and we work at the intersection of practice and policy to ensure all young people can pursue their education without sacrificing their economic futures. Our research-driven work equips policymakers, educators, and business leaders, along with students and their families, with tools and relationships to build a college-going culture. We all benefit when everyone has the opportunity to complete a valuable postsecondary credential, and our programs make that possibility a reality.

ALABAMA POSSIBLE | INITIATIVES

- Alabama Goes to College
- Alabama College Attainment Network
- High Education Alliance

VALUES

Equity: All people have the right to a prosperous and meaningful life.

Resiliency: Communities are inherently strong, capable, and in charge of their own futures.

Partnerships: We work together to maximize limited resources.

The Golden Rule: We build relationships based on reciprocity, respect, and compassion.

STRATEGIES FOR CREATING CHANGE

Raising Awareness: Sharing and communicating facts, data, perspectives, and other information to better understand the need for change in Alabama.

Collaborating: Working with faith-based communities, higher education, and other like-minded partners to further our mission, values, and advocacy work.

Capacity Building: Promoting and implementing activities and opportunities for individuals and communities to participate and advocate for change in Alabama.

CASH FOR COLLEGE

Goal: every graduating senior completes the FAFSA before they graduate from high school so that they can access federal, state, and institutional aid to pay for their education after high school.

UPCOMING EVENT

2022 Virtual Alabama College Attainment Network Conference - Re-imagining Strategic Pathways to Postsecondary Attainment and Beyond

Wednesday, April 12, 2022 | 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Southern Museum of Flight – Brian Barsanti and Daphne Dunn

Action Taken:

This item has been delayed.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Announce Vacancies of the Youth Advisory Commission Information

- 6 vacancies
- 4 year term

Requirements

- Resident of Birmingham

Duties

- Responsible for conducting comprehensive need assessment of youth programs
- Responsible for reviewing all programs that are youth oriented that receive or request City funding or support.
- Responsible for finding ways to better coordinate the program in order to optimize youth opportunities.
- Implementation of a Challenge Grant Program to encourage creative and/or innovative community youth programs.

Apply at birminghamal.gov/boardsandagencies – Youth Advisory Commission

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VI. BIRMINGHAM CITY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Birmingham Board of Education will have a regular Work Session, 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, Central Office Auditorium, 2015 Park Place North, 35203. The meeting can viewed live stream at livestream.com/bcs.

Masks are required inside the building.

A copy of the COVID-19 protocol will be in place.

A copy of the agenda will be posted when available.

The next Joint Education and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 18, 2022.

For additional information contact Danielle Lee @ danielle.lee@birminghamal.gov

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Adjourn.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

The Meeting was Adjourned.