



CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON
BLACK MALE ACHIEVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

Every Black male will have sufficient access and opportunity to the factors that lead to health, safety, and success.

September 8th Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance:

Samuel Ashby, Brian Detman, Tony Hopson, Mark Jackson, Dante James, Erious Johnson, Joe McFerrin, Lorenzo Poe, James Posey, Justice Rajee, Walter Robinson, Damon Turner, Condry “CJ” Robbins and David Jackson

CJ welcomed the group and thanked folks for being there. The minutes for the August meeting were then approved.

CJ informed the group that we have been selected as the state for the National League of cities Cross-Site Convening October 14th – 17th. We will be highlighting what Portland has done for Black Male Achievement. The agenda is still being formalized. There will be 35 – 40 out of state participants. A welcoming dinner will be held on October 14th and the presence of the BMA Steering committee is needed. Thursday will be the day of site visits and Portland will lead this. We would like to have three site visits with SEI being one of those. Input is needed for other site visits. There will also be a Hip Hop concert Thursday evening in City Hall’s atrium from 4 - 6. David Jackson stated that a lot of work is being put into this event and the Mayor has been very supportive. He is working with Chad Stover in the Mayor’s office. David is trying to get David Banner and Damian Lillard involved in this event. It was suggested that there be a real concert in the evening for those that aren’t able to attend the City Hall event. It was also suggested that this be a collective effort involving Black Lives Matter and Don’t Shoot Portland. David informed the group they are still in the planning stages.

The Summer Youth Experience Summit will be this Saturday from 10 – 4 in the White Stag building. CJ stated that we have a tight core group of young men. The focus is the original goal which was to get the young men through the experience. CJ would like have 150 black youth at this location on Saturday. The other ask is sponsorship. Lorenzo agreed to help out with sponsorship. CJ would also like to have 15 adults at the event. He also mentioned that a keynote speaker is still needed. CJ will send out the flyer to the group for distribution. Dante will get CJ in touch with someone that could help pay for the space.

The 26th is the date for the Capstone event. CJ needs the Steering committee there to celebrate the young men. The times are being finalized and CJ is still looking for a location. Please let CJ know if you have any suggestions for a location that will hold 200 – 300. The first hour will be for the youth to present what they have done. The second hours will be us celebrating them. There will also be time for meet and greet and music.

An email has been sent to the stakeholders regarding next steps in engaging them into the work.

The Justice Subcommittee drafted talking points for the gang list. Justice stated that Michael Alexander was a huge help in the editing. Erious mentioned that of 74 gangs listed 38 of them had two or less members. It was also stated that Modica is working on the draft policy for the gang list.

Joe gave the workforce update. He stated that things are moving along with the Capstone and the Summit. Joe also mentioned that he got in touch Michael Burch and was looking for other opportunities to plug in. He spoke with Jomo as well about training. He mentioned Work Systems Inc. and stated it's going to take all to work on a proposal due in February. As a unit we haven't worked a lot collectively. A proposal will be much stronger with all of us. We need to support our young fellows in a way they can be successful. James suggested the group get in contact with Andrew Colas. He stated the group was not taking advantage. James will reach out to Colas.

Mark gave the Education update and mentioned the HB 2016 which will develop strategies to improve the academic experience and success of black children in Oregon and HB 2968 which directs Chief Education Officer to convene work group to produce report on how State School Fund expenditures related to educational achievements of students from families in poverty.

CJ stated that the family stability group is still working on asset mapping in black fatherhood. He also mentioned the Black Men Healing Summit. More to come on this event in the future, which will take place in January.

CJ informed the group that the "Show up" Strategy will go out for an email vote.

Dante asked how the group would like to do about permanently appointing someone for the BMA Program Coordinator position. The group would like to do the City's minimum requirement to appoint someone.