



Meeting Minutes
Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males
Government Center South
Conference Room 5 Wabash Hall
302 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Friday, April 21, 2023

Call to Order: A meeting of the Indiana Commission for the Social Status of Black Males (ICSSBM) was held on Friday, April 21, 2023, in person at the Government South Building Conference Room 5, and virtually via WebEx. The meeting was called to order at 10:43am

Roll call - Commissioners in attendance: Commissioner Damien Jones (Proxy FSSA), Commissioner (Chair) Kari Jones (Proxy Div. of Mental Health and Addiction), Commissioner Richard Okello (Proxy ICRC), Commissioner (Vice-Chair) Dave Rozzell (Senator Bray), and Commissioner Tori Williams (Proxy Dept. of Corrections).

Via Conference Phone: Commissioner Kenneth Allen (Speaker Huston), Commissioner William Durham (Proxy Dept. of Education), Commissioner Kesha Rich (Proxy to IDOA), Commissioner David Stewart (Proxy to Lt. Governor), Commissioner Larry Stribling Jr. (Proxy to Dept. of Health).

Commissioners absent: Commissioner Vaneta Becker, Commissioner Elijah Neal (Senator Bray), Commissioner Shanel Poole (Speaker Huston), Commissioner Dwayne Sawyer (Senator Bray), Commissioner Vernon Smith, Commissioner Lamar Sykes (Speaker Huston), Commissioner Greg Taylor, and Commissioner Ann Vermilion.

Commissioner (Chair) Kari Jones stated that a quorum was not established. A quorum for the April commission meeting was not established until 11:09am.

Others in attendance: Meredith Lizza and Hunter Frost.

Chair's Report: Chair Jones informed everyone present that her goal is to conduct efficient and productive meetings in the scheduled time frame. She thanked everyone present so that ICSSBM has a quorum to conduct business. In addition, Chair Jones provided another overview on the Robert Rules of Order and how to conduct ourselves in meetings. Chair Jones provided oversight on supporting grassroots organizations (Grant Program) that provide education, health, job skills, employment, and social factor resources. She also, encouraged Commissioners to meet with organizations that align with ICSSBM's five-key focus areas in their networks to begin building a list of providers who serve Black Males. Chair Jones

proposed the Commission to develop a grant program to fund community organizations that align with ICSSBM five-key focus areas. The Chair also mentioned the need to develop a subcommittee to oversee creation of a grant program and report monthly to the full Commission.

Commissioner Okello motioned to develop a grant program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rozzell. Roll-call vote as follows: Commissioner Kenneth Allen (A), Commissioner William Durham (Y), Commissioner Damien Jones (Y), Commissioner Richard Okello (Y), Commissioner Kesha Rich (Y), Commissioner Dave Rozzell (Y), Commissioner David Stewart (Y), Commissioner Larry Stribling Jr. (Y), Commissioner Tori Williams (Y) and Commissioner/Chair Kari Jones (Y).

Commissioner Dave Rozzell motioned to develop a grant subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Richard Okello. Roll-call vote as follows: Commissioner Kenneth Allen (A), Commissioner William Durham (Y), Commissioner Damien Jones (Y), Commissioner Richard Okello (Y), Commissioner Kesha Rich (Y), Commissioner Dave Rozzell (Y), Commissioner David Stewart (Y), Commissioner Larry Stribling Jr. (Y), Commissioner Tori Williams (Y) and Commissioner/Chair Kari Jones (Y).

Director's Report: Director Giles provided an update on the Indiana Black Barbershop Health Initiative (IBBHI). The commissioners were supplied with promotional materials (flier, poster, post card and press release) regarding the IBBHI events. An update was provided on the career fair tentative for October 2023. Director Giles mentioned that Ball State University is interested in hosting a career fair. The Director presented an opportunity for all Commissioners to attend the 2023 ICRC Annual Conference. Commissioner Dave Rozzell motioned for the approval of ICSSBM to pay the registration costs for commissioners to attend the annual ICRC conference. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tori Williams. Roll-call vote as follows: Commissioner Kenneth Allen (A), Commissioner William Durham (Y), Commissioner Damien Jones (Y), Commissioner Richard Okello (Y), Commissioner Kesha Rich (A), Commissioner Dave Rozzell (Y), Commissioner David Stewart (Y), Commissioner Larry Stribling Jr. (Y), Commissioner Tori Williams (Y) and Commissioner/Chair Kari Jones (Y).

Commissioner Dave Rozzell, Commissioner Richard Okello, Chair Kari Jones and Director Virgil Giles elected to attend the conference.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes: Chair Jones moved forward with the adoption of the minutes from the February 2023 meeting. Commissioner Kenneth Allen motioned to approve the February 2023, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dave Rozzell. Roll-call vote as follows: Commissioner Kenneth Allen (Y), Commissioner William Durham (Y), Commissioner Damien Jones (Y), Commissioner Richard Okello (Y), Commissioner Kesha Rich (Y), Commissioner Dave Rozzell (Y), Commissioner David Stewart (Y), Commissioner Larry Stribling Jr. (Y), Commissioner Tori Williams (Y) and Commissioner/Chair Kari Jones (Y).

Commissioner Richard Okello motioned to approve the March 2023, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tori Williams. Roll-call vote as follows: Commissioner Kenneth Allen (Y), Commissioner William Durham (Y), Commissioner Damien Jones (Y), Commissioner Richard Okello (Y), Commissioner Kesha Rich (Y), Commissioner Dave Rozzell (Y), Commissioner David Stewart (Y), Commissioner Larry Stribling Jr. (Y), Commissioner Tori Williams (Y) and Commissioner/Chair Kari Jones (Y).

Review and Approval of the Financial Reports: Commissioner Kenneth Allen motioned to approve the February 2023; financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Damien Jones. Roll-call vote as follows: Commissioner Kenneth Allen (Y), Commissioner William Durham (Y), Commissioner Damien Jones (Y), Commissioner

Richard Okello (Y), Commissioner Kesha Rich (Y), Commissioner Dave Rozzell (Y), Commissioner David Stewart (Y), Commissioner Larry Stribling Jr. (Y), Commissioner Tori Williams (Y) and Commissioner/Chair Kari Jones (Y).

The next item was the adoption of the financial report for March 2023. Commissioner Dave Rozzell motioned to approve the March 2023; financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tori Williams. Roll-call vote as follows: Commissioner Kenneth Allen (Y), Commissioner William Durham (Y), Commissioner Damien Jones (Y), Commissioner Richard Okello (Y), Commissioner Kesha Rich (Y), Commissioner Dave Rozzell (Y), Commissioner David Stewart (Y), Commissioner Larry Stribling Jr. (Y), Commissioner Tori Williams (Y) and Commissioner/Chair Kari Jones (Y).

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business discussed.

New Business: There was no new business to discuss.

Announcement for the Good of the Order: Commissioner Dave Rozzell mentioned a previous discussion that took place in a meeting with Director Giles and Chair Jones, where there was conversation regarding the Commission's involvement in changing the paradigm that is resulting in so much violence among young Black men. No decisions have been made on what will be done but, Commissioner Dave Rozzell wanted to bring the matter up so the Commission could start thinking about ways to have an impact. In addition, Commissioner Rozzell mentioned that the Commission put together an, "Black Males Matter Survival Kit" to address anti-violence and the challenges that Black males face.

There being no further business to discuss, the ICSSBM April Commission meeting concluded at 11:50am.