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## Commission on the Social Status of Black Males

December 7, 2020 from 7:30 to 8:30 AM

### Minutes

#### I. Welcome and Introduction

- a. **Members:** Rep. Ford, Rep. Smith, Rep. Marron, Commissioner Brandon Johnson, Dr. Stanley Howard, Mayor Richard Irvin, Aaron Mallory, Dawson Pickens, Hubert Harrington.
- b. **DCFS:** Alexa Koziol, Kara Hamilton.

#### II. Discussion:

##### a. **Review of House Resolution 390.**

- i. Representative Ford provided an overview of House Resolution 390 that was passed in 2019.
- ii. Representative Ford explained that the resolution asks that the commission complete a report by 2021. Due to the upcoming deadline, an extension will need to be passed in 2021.

#### III. Discussion:

##### a. **Introductions**

- i. Members introduced themselves.

#### IV. Discussion:

##### a. **Suggestions and feedback from members.**

- i. Mayor Irvin:
  1. Extension for the report. It was suggested that the commission sets report dates. Quarterly report dates should be set. 90-120 days.
  2. Press release will need to be drafted and reviewed by the commission.
- ii. Rep. Ford:
  1. Behavior health needs to be discussed in future meetings. Aaron Mallory was suggested to take the lead in those discussions. Topics include: toxic stress, incarceration, youth in DCFS care and educating the public.
  2. Dr. Howard emphasized the topic of stress and wants the commission to take a deeper look into early childhood.
- iii. Aaron Mallory:
  1. Report and an action plan. Goals and next steps. Identify and make recommendations moving forward.
  2. Mayor Irvin suggested breaking down and identifying the issues in the black community. It is important to identify, recommend and implement.
- iv. Rep. Ford:
  1. It was proposed that Mayor Irvin be the Chief Commissioner of the commission on the social status of black males.
- v. Dr. Howard:
  1. Suggested adding "evaluation" to the goals of the commission.
  2. Rep. Ford would like to add "evaluation" to the resolution when there are edits made to the resolution in 2021.
- vi. Dawson Pickens:

1. In the future, Mr. Pickens would like to include young people and discuss social media and how that plays a role in the lives of young men.
- vii. Hubert Harrington:
1. Discussed DCFS youth and foster care.
- viii. Mayor Irvin:
1. Commission should be intentional in including young men. The commission should also discuss how COVID-19 has impacted young black men and education.

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Next Meeting: December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020**