



Commission on Fathers, Men, and Boys
Executive Office of the Mayor
Tony Dugger, Executive Director
202-545-3055 [o] | tony.dugger@dc.gov

First Public Commission Meeting

2/17/2016

Attendance:

George Garrow
Dr. Elsie Scott
Franklyn Malone
Tristan Wilkerson
Ivory Toldson
Brett O. Greene
Deputy Mayor Courtney Snowden
Tony Dugger – Executive Director
Ajan Brown – Program Analyst
Randy Gill – Intern

Absent:

Arthur Burnett – Out of town
Ed Davies

Start Time: 6:35 p.m.

Adjournment: 8:10 p.m.

Notes:

Tony Dugger, the Executive Director of the Commission on Fathers, Men, and Boys (CFMB) opened the meeting up by welcoming attendees and giving an overview of the Commission before handing it over to Commissioner Franklyn Malone.

Commissioner Malone gave a brief history of how the CFMB legislation was formed through community advocacy. He encouraged the audience to stay involved in Commission activities because we need their support the first year and beyond.

The Deputy Mayor for Greater Economic Opportunity Courtney Snowden and Councilwoman LaRuby May offered words of encouragement to the Commission and noted the importance of the Commission's work.

Chairman George Garrow introduced the Commission to attendees with brief bios and accomplishments. He also announced the three committees and chairman to those in attendance. The

three committees are: Programs Committee, Tristan Wilkerson, Chair; Research & Policy Committee, Ivory Toldson, Chair; Special Events & Initiatives, Franklyn Malone, Chair.

The 2016 Meeting Schedule for CFMB was approved by the Commissioners. For the full schedule, please visit cfmb.dc.gov.

Director Dugger went through the programs and initiatives coming out of the office and covered goals for the Commission in year one.

Programs Outlined:

Fathers First Initiative: The Commission on Fathers, Men, and Boys presents a best-practice model for DC's Fatherhood Service Providers that is both nationally and locally recognized. This ensures a comprehensive support system for fathers and their children that averts the crisis of fatherlessness. Providers' programming must include the following services; 1.) Work Skills, Self-Sufficiency, and Employment, 2.) Responsible Fatherhood, 3.) Healthy Relationships and Co-Parenting, and 4.) Behavioral Health.

Books and Barbershops: Barbershops have always been a place for men to gather and discuss current events, politics, and sports. It's a place where fathers spend time with their children and where boys become men. Now it is a place for reading and learning too. Through a partnership with the Empowering Males of Color Initiative, the Commission will host reading and discussion sessions across the city at participating barbershops. Here, boys and young men will select books based on their interests.

State of Fathers, Men, and Boys: This document will cite educational, occupational, income, and the health and well-being statistics of fathers, men, and boys across all 8 Wards of the city. This overview, combined with the qualitative data from DC government agencies and community partners will serve to inform our government on effective policy and practice.

Advisory Core Team Roundtable Series: Government agencies and community-based organizations meet regularly to assess and review city-wide services and policies that impact fathers, men, and boys. We are currently developing a meeting schedule that will be published on the CFMB website.

Dr. Ben Williams, the principal of Empowering Males High School, the first all-male school in DC, presented on his backstory and what this new school hopes to accomplish. Dr. Williams noted that mentoring was going to play a key role in the development of these young men. He fielded questions that ranged from what the curriculum design looked like to after-school activities to staffing ratio to students.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after Director Dugger acknowledged some special guests in attendance. The meeting was followed by a brief networking reception.