

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE SYSTEM

Mayor's Order 2012-127
August 15, 2012

SUBJECT: Establishment – Mayor's Advisory Commission on Caribbean Community Affairs

ORIGINATING AGENCY: Office of the Mayor

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the District of Columbia by section 422(2) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973, 87 Stat. 790, Pub. L. No. 93-198, D.C. Official Code § 1-204.22(2) (2012 Supp.), it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

I. ESTABLISHMENT

There is hereby established in the Executive Branch of the Government of the District of Columbia, the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Caribbean Community Affairs (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission").

II. PURPOSE

The Commission shall advise the Mayor and the Director of Community Affairs as appropriate, on issues, matters, concerns, methods, and views that are designed to strengthen and enhance the educational, social, cultural, and economic life of the District by building and fostering enhanced relationships between the District of Columbia and communities of individuals from nations in the Caribbean who reside in the District of Columbia.

III. FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Commission shall include:

- A. Advising on means to encourage enhanced communication between the District government and members of Caribbean communities who reside in the District of Columbia.
- B. Making recommendations to promote greater collaboration in cultural and artistic exchange between the District government and members of Caribbean communities who reside in the District of Columbia.

- C. Advising on approaches to developing, stimulating, enhancing, or expanding, business and investment opportunities in the District among members of the Caribbean community who reside in the District of Columbia.
- D. Advising on means to develop and encourage health and environmental awareness issues and information exchange.
- E. Serving as an advocate for members of Caribbean communities who reside in the District of Columbia by providing review and comment on proposed District laws, regulations and policies that may affect members of these Caribbean communities.
- F. Collaborating with other organizations concerned with members of Caribbean communities who reside in the District of Columbia.
- G. With the approval of the Office of Partnerships and Grant Services, solicit gifts, donations and grants, and hold fundraisers in accordance with applicable District laws and regulations.
- H. In fulfilling its functions, the Commission may prepare and issue written reports, videos, or make use of a mix of seminars, symposia, public hearings, teach-ins, public lectures, educational forums, exhibitions, fairs, carnivals, and cultural and social events.
- I. Undertaking other duties as assigned by the Mayor, or his designee.

IV. COMPOSITION

- A. The Commission shall be comprised of not more than eleven (11) voting members appointed by the Mayor who shall be District residents.
- B. The voting members appointed to the Commission may include representation from the following communities:
 - 1. Business, labor and economic development;
 - 2. Professional;
 - 3. Educational;
 - 4. Cultural;
 - 5. Religious;
 - 6. Not-for-profit institutions and organizations;

7. Other than English-speaking; and
 8. The general public.
- C. Members of the Commission shall have knowledge and expertise in the issues, cultures, people, educational systems, governmental systems and structures, economic and business systems, or social systems of nations in the Caribbean.
- D. Members of the Commission shall be representative of as many Caribbean nationalities as is feasible, but shall be especially representative of Caribbean nationalities held by residents of the District.
- E. For the purposes of composition of the Commission and this Mayor's Order, the term "nation[s] in the Caribbean" shall include the following nations, areas, territories, departments, or dependencies:
1. Anguilla;
 2. Antigua and Barbuda;
 3. Aruba;
 4. The Bahamas;
 5. Barbados;
 6. Belize;
 7. British Virgin Islands;
 8. Cayman Islands;
 9. Cuba;
 10. Dominica;
 11. Dominican Republic;
 12. Grenada;
 13. Guadeloupe;
 14. Guyana;

15. Haiti;
16. Jamaica;
17. Martinique;
18. Montserrat;
19. Netherlands Antilles;
20. Puerto Rico;
21. St. Kitts and Nevis;
22. St. Lucia;
23. St. Vincent and the Grenadines;
24. Suriname;
25. Trinidad and Tobago;
26. Turks and Caicos; and
27. United States Virgin Islands.

- H. Neither the Commission, nor any member of the Commission, shall have any legal authority, actual or implied, to negotiate or contract with any Embassy, government, business, organization, institution, or any other entity, on behalf of the District government.
- I. The Director of Community Affairs, or his or her designee, shall serve as the ex officio, non-voting designee of the Mayor on the Commission.

V. TERMS

- A. The Mayor shall appoint members to terms of three (3) years, except that, of the first eleven voting members appointed, six (6) shall be appointed to three (3) year terms, and five (5) shall be appointed to two (2) year terms.
- B. The date that the first members are installed shall become the anniversary date for all subsequent appointments.
- C. The Chairperson may excuse a member for a meeting for an emergency reason. The Mayor may remove any member who fails to attend two (2) unexcused, consecutive meetings.

- D. Any member who fails to attend three (3) consecutive, unexcused, meetings shall be deemed to be removed from the Commission, and a vacancy created.
- E. The Mayor shall appoint members to fill vacancies in an unexpired term only for the remainder of the unexpired time of the term.
- F. A member shall serve for no more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- G. Members may serve beyond the end of their terms until reappointed, or replaced, by the Mayor.

VI. COMPENSATION

Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation, except that a member may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the authorized execution of official Commission duties, if approved in advance by the Director of the Office of Community Affairs, and subject to appropriation and funding availability.

VII. ORGANIZATION

- A. The Mayor shall appoint a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson from among the appointed voting members of the Commission. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall serve in those capacities at the pleasure of the Mayor.
- B. The Commission may elect such other officers as may be required, or as its members deem appropriate
- C. The Commission shall convene at least two (2) meetings each year.
- D. The Commission may establish subcommittees as needed. Subcommittees may include persons who are not members of the full Commission, provided that each subcommittee is chaired by a Commission member.
- E. The Commission may establish its own by-laws and rules of procedure, subject to the approval of the Mayor or his designee.
- F. There shall be no voting by proxy.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION

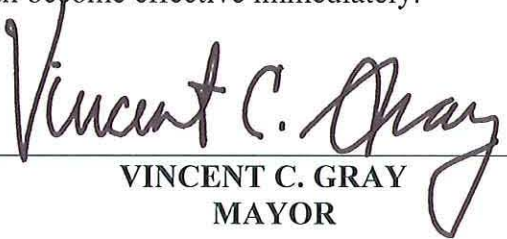
- A. The Office of Community Affairs shall provide administrative and technical support subject to approval by its Director.

- B. The Commission may utilize District public building space, without charge, to sponsor or hold meetings and events pre-approved by the Commission, in accordance with District law and regulations.


IX. SUNSET

The Commission shall sunset on August 31, 2021.

- X. EFFECTIVE DATE:** This Order shall become effective immediately.



VINCENT C. GRAY
MAYOR

ATTEST: 

CYNTHIA BROCK-SMITH
SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA