

# Michigan City Commission on the Social Status of African American Males

Nick Pollock  
**Chairman**

Robert Johnson  
**Vice-Chairman**

Casey McCormick  
**Secretary**

W. Faye Moore  
**Treasurer**

**Minutes of Meeting: February 12, 2025  
EEOC Room –City Hall downstairs  
Noon**

*Approved  
Pastor Hurt  
Willie Milsap*

## **Mission Statement:**

The Mission of the Michigan City Commission on the Social Status of African-American Males is to study the social conditions of the state's black male population, develop strategies to remedy or assist in remedying serious adversities, and make recommendations to improve the educational, social, economic, employment, and other circumstances for Hoosiers. The Commission serves policymakers and public interest groups, as well as the media, community organizations and members of the general public.

**Called to Order:** Commissioner Nick Pollock, Chairman

**Pledge:** Led by Commissioner Willie Milsap

**Roll Call:** Present: Commissioners Benning, Carroll, Hurt, Johnson, Jones, Sr., Rodney McCormick, Milsap, Moore and Pollock (9)

**Absent:** Kenny Fly, Sr. –Excused Absence; Casey McCormick- Excused Absence; Taylor Tillman Excused Absence; Mike Walker Council Liaison Joseph Nelson

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to accept minutes Rodney McCormick. Motion seconded by Robert Johnson. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Beginning and ending balance: \$3,800.00. There were no deposits and no withdrawals. Motion by McCormick and seconded by Carroll. Motion passed.

## **Old Business:**

- 1.** Update on Bulls game: Commissioner Hurt stated the Bulls' Game is scheduled for March 4, 2025. Twenty youth and Five Chaperones.
- 2.** Basketballs for King Center: Approved and Commissioner Rodney McCormick will have the receipts for the basketballs next week.
- 3.** Money for Wrestling Team Uniforms: The amount is over \$600.00 and must go before the Board of Works before the check can be approved. Board of Works meeting is Tuesday at 8:00 a.m.

## **New Business:**

**Big Check:** It was discussed by Commissioner Moore and Pollock to have a big dry erase check printed and when we have donations we can present them and get some publicity. There was some discussion; no vote, but the other commissioners seem to agree. Commissioner Pollock stated he would let us know at the next meeting how much the big check would cost.

**Subcommittee Appointments:** A sheet was passed around with current subcommittees and everyone was asked to add or change the committee they wanted to be on. Commissioner Nick Pollock asked Commissioners to add their names to a committee and if they can't meet with the committee, they should remove their name.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Education:** Commissioner Dwayne Hurt

The schools need volunteers, especially male volunteers. You will have to have a background check completed.

Commissioner Rodney McCormick reminded Commissioners that if they sign up for a committee, they should meet and everyone should show up or don't join the committee.

### **Health Committee:** Commissioner Robert Johnson

There will be a seminar on diabetes in April and possibly one on cancer. Minority Health Coalition will be sending out notices about the seminars. The presenters will be Albertine Allen and Beatrice Simpson-Perry. Minority Health is looking for volunteers to join them, contact information 219 879-1712. Commissioner McCormick asked for someone from Minority Health to come and speak? The answer was yes.

### **Economics:** Commissioner Willie Milsap

Commissioner Milsap passed out two flyers (1) Amazon hiring and the QR Code with information is on the flyer. (2) WorkOne presenting several virtual workshops during the month of February.

### **Criminal Justice:** Commissioner Taylor Tillman

**Commissioner r.** McCormick stated that Commissioner Tillman is lining up a speaker for March meeting. Also, any resident of Michigan City or LaPorte County can be a member of the Social Status Commission subcommittees.

Commissioner Johnson stated he is a former Juvenile Parole Officer and want to join the Criminal Justice subcommittee

### **Social Factors:** Commissioner W. Faye Moore

Our next meeting is March 5, 2025 at Michigan City Public Library at 4:30 pm- 100 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 3.

February is Black History Month and there are movies on Thursdays at M. C. Police Dept. Community Room (off Cleveland Ave) at 5:30 pm-7:30 pm. Saturday, Feb. 125, 2025 Essence Rare Black Expo pop-ups at Store 1309 at the Lighthouse Place Mall next to Tommy Hilfiger Store and Sunday –Gospel Fest at Zion-Hill – 717 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street 4-6 pm You can check the Black History Month Facebook page for the entire schedule and our sponsors.

Public Comment:

Tommy Kulvick - 1316 Ohio St., Michigan City.

Happy Black History Month.

According to City Ordinance 2-457 –Michigan City Social Status Commission of African American Males is to give your Annual Report to City Council at the first meeting in March.

March 5, 2025 –City Council meeting will be discussing the building of a Drug Free Center on Wabash & Ann Street with Drug Free Partnership. 1.8 million dollar project. We need social services here.

Commissioner Comments:

Stasi Benning – Board inconsistency with attendance, maybe we should meet every other month. If we are productive, we meet, if we don't have much, maybe we don't need to meet.

Robert Johnson – Maybe we should meet every other month.

This brought on a short discussion and Commissioner Pollock, Chair stated he would send out and email to all commissioners asking them what time they prefer to meet; every month or every other month or even a possible time change.

Mike Jones asked about Education problems at the school. Chair Nick said he would check into the rumors and that he is going to the State House Thursday and will talk to our State representatives about this also.

Commissioner McCormick – We need to address getting someone from the County on this Commission.

Chair Nick stated he would write a letter to Council President Tracie Tillman about getting a new Council Liaison also.

12:55 Meeting Adjourned

**NEXT MEETING MARCH 13, 2025**