

**Age- Friendly Louisville**

**Social Participation, Respect & Inclusion**

**Meeting via ZOOM**

**February 9, 2021**

17 Attendees: Chris Clements Terri Thomas

 Rita Morrow Charlene Holloway

 Avery Crews Sameera Jackson

 Kim Cordell-Fife Tabetha Stansberry

 Tihisha Rawlins Kellye Cunningham

 Ricky Owens McClain Owens

 Shirley Fuqua Jackson Marji Pilato

 Rev Ron Loughy Keeley Rhodes

 Sandra McGuire

**Welcome/Introduction:** There were three new attendees for the Domain Session today. They included Keeley Rhodes with ElderServe, Tabetha Stansbury with Wellcare, and Kellye Cunningham with NAACP. Their new contact information is krhodes@elderserveinc.org Tabetha.stansbury@wellcare.com kdcunningham@tbsigma.org At 2:05 PM, Rita Morrow welcomed everyone and then had each person introduced him/herself and say what organization they are with and who their admired African American was in honor of Black History Month.

**Highlights from January 2021 Meeting:** Rita provided very short overview from the January 2021 Age Friendly Louisville domain session, reflecting on plans to continue to drive by intergenerational parades in the community as well as on going collaborations with groups like Boys & Girls Club of Kentuckiana, Louisville Urban League, as well as group of Middle Schools in the Newburg area. The big highlight was hearing the personal story and reflection by attendee, Charlene Holloway. She told how she marched and participated with Martin Luther King Jr. when he was here in Louisville and the great social justice things she has done in her lifetime. It was compelling and touching story. Also, it was good to have McClain Owens join the group from Jan – April 2021 as additional UofL Trager Institute help for this domain. More on all of these things will be discussed for February 2021 meeting.

**Guest Speaker—Kellye Cunningham (NAACP)**: Today’s speaker was introduced by Rita Morrow. Her name is Kellye Cunningham. She is the NAACP KY Representative Youth Director. Kellye began with a personal gratitude to NAACP member and last month guest speaker, Charlene Holloway. She referred to her as “walking legend” and some she deeply admired. Kellye’s background includes being a lifetime member of the NAACP since 1981 and currently its third Vice President (VP) for Louisville chapter. She shared the mission of the NAACP and its focus in Louisville for the 2021 year. She very much wants more youth involvement and engagement as they are critical piece. She shared that NAACP has been around for 112 years and will celebrate this milestone on 2/12/2021. She also told the background of NAACP and how it started in Springfield, Illinois. The current Louisville President of NAACP is Ronald Cunningham. The most important issues for NAACP right now are COVID 19 vaccine for black people (which has been unbalance or not equal), Voter Registration & Advocacy, Ex-Offenders Voting Rights restored, Engage more youth involvement and understanding of the legislative process. She shared about scholarship, application and membership opportunities with NAACP. Questions asked by Rita Morrow was what was the membership fee and age for youth. Kellye replied that it $10 - $15 and it could start as early as middle school age (teenager). Chris Clements followed up with what the youth membership total was to date. Kellye responded that there are 47 paid or active youth members with the youngest being 12 to 13 years of age. For those who want to learn more about NAACP, contact Kellye Cunningham or go to [www.lounaacp.org](http://www.lounaacp.org) Ricky Owens said he was very much interested in following up and having Kellye talk and work with the middle schools in the Newburg area. Everyone else thanked Kellye for her time and information and they would share the importance of NAACP to other groups especially those with youth.

**Update with Louisville Urban League:** Newest member to the domain, McClain Owens, shared her update with the Louisville Urban League. She had followed up with email to the three representatives and contacts the Domain had to inquire about future 2021 plans and next steps. As of today’s meeting, no email response has come but a follow up phone call as well as other communication steps will be considered. Doing partnership with Louisville Urban League remains a priority for this year with the Domain.

**Update on Boys & Girls Club of Kentuckiana and “Black History Month”:** Rita Morrow was pleased to report that three dates and times have been set up with the Boys & Girls Club of Kentuckiana for later in February. The locations, dates, and times are below. Each of these will be on ZOOM and have Charlene Holloway as the featured guest speaker to each of them sharing a shorter version of civil rights story and then the youth having a chance to ask questions. Also the two to three minute video clip about Charlene Holloway done on Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Jan 20th) from WAVE 3 News will be shared with the group as intro. The actual zoom link id is 835 6154 0223 and password is 168 833.

* Parkland on Feb 22nd (Monday) 12:30 PM to 1:15 PM
* Newburg on Feb 24th (Wednesday) 1:00 PM to 1:45 PM
* Shawnee on Feb 26th (Friday) 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM

**Talent Show Update with three Middle Schools:** Ricky Owens stated that things were moving forward for the planned “Talent Show” event involving all three Newburg area middle schools. The three schools ae TJ Middle, Newburg Middle, and DuBois School. The actual talent show will take place in March but all those “middle school” age students wanting to participate in it will have till Feb 15th as deadline to put their entry in. Ricky Owens expects there be up to 25 youth participants. The judges for the talent show will be mixture of generations but many of them older persons whom are associated with the Age Friendly Louisville domains as well as AARP. This will give it an intergenerational appeal and connection. More specific details on the Talent Show will be forthcoming and communicated with all Age Friendly Louisville domain members. At this time there are already up to 10 judges planned for the event.

**2021 Parades Update and Tentative Plans:** Chris Clements shared the news of the next drive by parade for the Domain. He also credited both McClain Owens and Rev. Ron Loughy for their help, support and ideas for this one. While it was hoped to do two different parades: “Valentines Day” and “Mardi Gras” parade due to the short time frame and getting enough persons involved and insuring the partnering sites and groups were on board along with Valentines Day being on Sunday and Monday being an official holiday (President’s Day), the parade will be joint “Valentines Day and Mardi Gras Parade” and take place on Feb 16th which actually happens to be “Fat Tuesday”. The parade route will include drive by stops at Masonic Home community, St Joseph Children’s Home, Nazareth Home Clifton Campus (Sacred Heart Village), KY School for the Blind and United Crescent Hill Ministries (UCHM). Start of the parade will be at the front entrance of Masonic Home at 3701 Frankfort Avenue. It be promoted and advertised on Age Friendly Louisville website and through email to all the current and past members/attendees. It was asked by a few members if handouts, brochures, pamphlets and more be given out during the parade. This brought on a lively discussion and concerns of social distance along with whether the parade would become more of marketing and public relations campaign then a feel good and brighten up the spirits focus. The three facilitators said they will discuss this and also share with the Leadership Committee on Feb 16th and get back with the group on what is best and how to handle future parades. Going forward, a committee group would be set up with doing new parades in 2021 with different targeted areas and seasonal themes with the next one being focused on St. Patrick’s Day, Spring Season and Easter.

**Items for Next Meeting (March):** A guest speaker had not been slated for next month’s Domain meeting. However, there appears to be enough on the agenda to have a full meeting. Things would include continued partnership and update with the Louisville Urban League. Other items include the Talent Show with three Newburg Area middle schools along with the “Black History Month event with Charlene Holloway and the Boys and Girls Club of Kentuckiana. Also a laid plan for future drive by parades as well was what things will be considered in doing these in the future. There is also tentative project with Lopa Mehrotra in the Smoketown area and a Center there that focuses on NTI Programs and Books for Children. More to come on this in March.

**New Business and Updates:** Due to time of the domain session lasting over 1 hour and 30 minutes today and many attendees needing to go or take part in other meetings and personal things, the only new business was that Chris Clements reminded the group that March 8 – 14 was National Inter Generational Week and the Domain hoped to do something to commemorate this week. Also, March 17th (Wednesday) would be the St Patrick’s Day Parade and the location and details are to be determined later on but both Sameer Jackson and Tabetha Stansbury are interested in helping with it.

**The next Age Friendly Louisville Social Participation, Inclusion and Respect Domain will be on March 9th (Tuesday) from 2 PM to 4 PM. The same ZOOM link will be used and communication phone numbers of 312-626-6799 and 646-876-9923 will be provided.**