



Making Great Communities Happen

Message from the Chair

Dear PBCD Members,

Since our last newsletter, we have entered a season change and extraordinary challenges. These challenges and the loss of life have continued to tear at the fabric of our community. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to add further strain and illustrate the extent of the disparities that exist within our community from health care and education to housing and employment to name a few.

However, this is also a moment and an opportunity to explore better and more equitable strategies, policies and solutions. In the coming months we will examine our community more closely, discuss the issues we face and explore measures and applications to aid and to support our respective communities.

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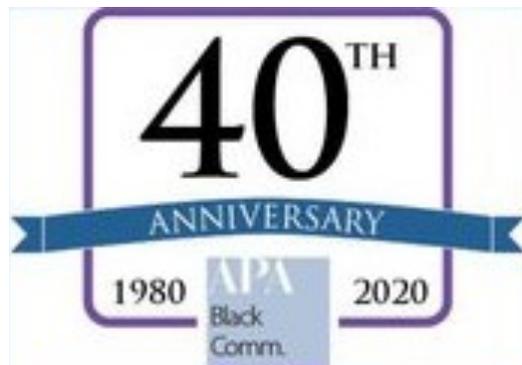
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In November, in honor of our 40th Anniversary, we will host a virtual conference to facilitate conversation and bring about the change that is needed. Our theme, “Forward: Renewing Our Commitment to Good Trouble, Necessary ‘Trouble’”, follows the charge of Representative John Lewis to be pro-active. Registration is now open, and I hope that you will join us as we renew our commitment to service black communities.

We are committed to engaging with all of you as we strive towards a common goal of stronger, more vibrant and healthy communities.

Take good care,
Victoria

Victoria Mason-Ailey, AICP



PBCD Elects New Executive Board

Patrice Ruffin, AICP PBCD Elections Chair

The election cycle for the 2021-2022 PBCD Executive Committee opened on March 2, 2020. The positions open for nomination included Chair-Elect, Vice Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, and Student Representative.

The Nominations Committee received two submissions for Chair-Elect, two for Vice Chair, and one each for Secretary-Treasurer and Student Representative.

Special points of interest:

- Profile on PBCD Fellow 2020

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The election cycle closed on August 14th and results are now being released to the membership. This year, 105 of PBCD's 1,000+ members participated in voting - approximately 10%. The 2021-2022 Executive Committee is as follows:

- Chair-Elect, Gisla Augustin (Founder/CEO of GiGi the Planner and a City Planner for the City of Pompano Beach)
- Vice Chair, LaToya Benjamin (Director of Economic Development for New York State Senator James Sanders Jr.)
- Secretary-Treasurer, Tia Keitt (Family & Community Engagement Coordinator for the Kids Hope Alliance (KHA), Jacksonville, Florida)
- Student Representative, Stacie Sanders (First-year student with Portland State University Business School, Masters in Real Estate Development (MRED) program)

The new officers will take office on January 1, 2021 and we look forward to working with them all during their tenures!

Census 2020 Real Talk

Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore, FAICP

10 Questions

10 Minutes

10s of thousands of \$\$ per person at risk

Less than 30 days to get it right

October 15, 2020, is the deadline for the 2020 Census. Complete your form at <https://2020census.gov/>

COVID 19 has taught us many, very painful lessons that we do not want to repeat:

- Insufficient medical facilities and medical essential workers and products close to where we live;
- Under-resourced schools and many of our kids without basic educational equipment and supplies – wi-fi, computers/tablets, books for distance learning;
- Inadequate housing options, resulting in overcrowded conditions and lack of adequate social distancing to prevent disease spread;
- Under-resourced agencies unable to staff up quickly to meet the shift and increased service demands such as unemployment claims and safety net programs;
- Scores of lives lost, many of whom could have been saved.

Make sure you are counted/your voice heard so we can plan for a better future!

The probability of an undercount is very high!! Let's not experience poor quality of life conditions that an accurate population count and funding allocation can prevent!

Let's get this Census count right and let's do it now!!!

- Reach out to your networks to encourage and help family members, friends, neighbors and coworkers complete their forms;
- Volunteer with your local Complete Count committee and help with phone banks and mailers and by trusted members of your community and church.

This is a once in a decade opportunity and 2030 will be too late.



Samuel J. Cullers, First Professionally Trained African American Urban Planner

Jeffrey Lowe, Ph.D., Sigmund Shipp, Ph.D. and Izanie Love



This year PBCD celebrates 40 years as an APA special interest group. Despite PBCD's longstanding focus on black planners and the black community, little is known about the contribution of Black planners to the profession and society at-large. Samuel J. Cullers, the first African American professionally trained urban planner in the United States, is a part of this neglected history.

Cullers was born June 16, 1918 in Chicago, Illinois. After graduating from Tilden Technical High School (then Roosevelt College), he attended Fisk University and earned a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Sociology in 1948. A recipient of the John Hay Whitney Fellowship, Cullers earned a Master's degree in City and Regional Planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1952.

Prior to commencing his career, a supervisor told Cullers that he should put his hopes aside of ever becoming an urban planner because of his race. Undeterred, Cullers began a planning career both here and abroad.

After graduating from MIT, he became Deputy Director of Redevelopment in Hartford, CT. Internationally, Cullers accepted the position of Senior Planner and Chief of Party for the Bangkok (Thailand) City Planning Team Project. Later, he served as City Planning Advisor to the Ministry of the Interior. After leaving Bangkok, Cullers was Director of the City of Chicago's Community Renewal Program before joining the Metropolitan Toronto (Canada) Planning Board to direct an Urban Renewal study. Cullers returned to the United States three years later as Chief of Urban Planning for the State of California Office of Planning. In 1972, he established Samuel J. Cullers & Associates, specializing in environmental planning and economic development.

Cullers actions and writings highlighted a life devoted to ending discrimination against Black people in society and the planning profession. In 1955, he filed a Civil Rights housing discrimination lawsuit in Hartford against McKinley Park Homes. After attending the 1967 ASPO National Planning Conference, Cullers wrote an article for the Journal of the American Institute of Planners entitled "A Change in Direction." The article interrogated the planning profession and its commitment to civil rights and racial integration. It confronted the exclusion of minority groups and their concerns in the planning profession. Almost three decades later, Cullers completed an essay for The Crisis, the official magazine of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Entitling the essay "Our Only Concerns Should Be Black Concerns," Cullers called for racial solidarity and a rejection of all forms of racism, in particularly racist behavior against African Americans. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Hartford and Sacramento chapters of NAACP and the Sacramento Urban League. His other professional commitments include serving as APA Director for the Sacramento Valley Section and APA Board of Directors.

Samuel J. Cullers died at the age of 87, on September 28, 2005.

Are you a PBCD history maker? Be sure to share your accomplishments, awards, or job announcements by sending the Division an e-mail at info_pbcd@planning.org. We will be sure to feature you in an upcoming newsletter or spotlight you on our social media sites. Please include a picture with your e-mail.

HISTORY MAKERS

Forward:

Renewing our Commitment to Good Trouble, Necessary Trouble

Join PBCD as we celebrate our 40th Anniversary and renew our commitment to serving Black Communities.



Register Now!

**Planning and the Black Community Division
Virtual Conference
Friday, November 6th to Sunday, November 8th, 2020**

Register Here:
[planning.org/registrations/PBCDC/9206229/](https://www.planning.org/registrations/PBCDC/9206229/)
View Conference Schedule:
[planning.org/events/eventmulti/9206229/](https://www.planning.org/events/eventmulti/9206229/)

Register is open at the following link <https://www.planning.org/login/?next=/registrations/PBCDC/9206229/>
The link to the conference schedule <https://www.planning.org/events/eventmulti/9206229/>

Join PBCD for Brunch + Intellectual Conversations on Planning Topics Relevant to the Black Community

Sunday, November 8, 2020
2:00 p.m. Eastern Time/ 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time
(1.5 Hour Duration)

Forward: Renewing our Commitment to Good Trouble, Necessary Trouble

Overview:

As a culminating event for the 40th Anniversary Conference, PBCD will host a virtual mixer to share stories and resources relevant to the theme of “Renewing our Commitment to Good Trouble, Necessary Trouble”.

Breakout Topic Sessions:

Social Injustice and Urban Planning — COVID-19/Public Health and the Black Community — Combating Displacement — Addressing Housing/Homelessness — Promoting Transportation Equity — Public Participation in the Pandemic.

Registration: Free Sign up on the PBCD webpage at http://bit.ly/PBCD_VirtualBrunch. Additional program details are outlined on the Division the webpage.

Don't forget to bring your favorite brunch food and drinks!



Calling all volunteers. Get involved with PBCD!

Send all inquiries to the PBCD email address

info_pbcd@planning.org

Elections Committee: Coordinates PBCD Elections and recruits and train officers;

Communications Committee: Serves as editor and writers of the newsletters, any social media and website activity, coordinated by the Social Media Administrator, and coordination of all webinars;

Regional Ambassador Program: Coordinates regional events along with Board Members to promote PBCD initiatives and activities;

Collective Impact: Coordinates the formation of complementary professions to formulate a Think Tank and Speakers Bureau to address issues germane to the African-American community;

Fellowship Committee: Disseminates and coordinates activities for the Fellowship Award and oversee the Fellow’s research project;

Fundraising Committee: Establishes fundraising goals and develops



a solicitation packet for fundraising;

Membership Committee: Cultivates activities to secure new memberships to the Division and develops survey to assess membership satisfaction;

40th Anniversary Committee: Establishes the theme for the event and creates the marketing campaign and anniversary outline for members;

Mentor/Mentee Committee: Facilitates matching of professional PBCD Planners, students and young adults and provides assistance and resources throughout the year.

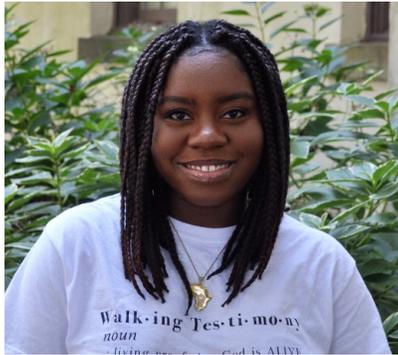


Check us out on social media

- <https://blackcommunity.planning.org>
 - <https://twitter.com/pbcdiv>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PlanningandtheBlackCommunity>
 - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4109746>
- Email the Division at info_pbcd@planning.org

PBCD Student Connection

With a growing number of student members to the Division, PBCD will include a student connection section that highlights students who leaving their imprint in the planning field. The newly created Student Ambassador program provides student members an opportunity to coordinate events and activities around planning research, current topics, and social gatherings across the nation. Let’s introduce three new PBCD Student Ambassadors to the membership.



Deanie Anyangwe, a Baltimore native, is a second-year dual degree MPH/MCRP student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill concentrating in Health Behavior at the Gillings School of Global Public Health and specializing in Housing and Community Development for her planning degree. She currently serves as a graduate assistant for the Office of Student Affairs at the Gillings School of Public Health. Deanie has worked extensively on a variety of public health issues and topics including school health, public health leadership, health policy and communications, and more recently emergency preparedness and response to COVID-19. This summer, she has been working with faculty and administration at Gillings to create resources to train faculty in anti-racist public health pedagogy. Deanie is a strong advocate for racial justice and liberation and grounds her work in anti-racist politics. Her career interests lie at the intersection of decision making around housing and economic development and health. In her free time, Deanie loves spending time with her friends and family, reading, and binging Netflix.

Evin Vinson is from Chicago, Illinois, and became aware of the planning profession through an internship while pursuing an undergraduate degree. Until then Evin had no idea that urban planning existed as a discipline. Understanding the potential possibilities that existed in the planning profession, Evin knew it was something that needed to be pursued. While in school Evin will be studying economic development and sustainable planning. He offered PBCD some comments regarding his interests. “Economic development is important because economic growth in black communities is in dire need. We need more people working to bring jobs with livable wages and new businesses to our communities. In terms of sustainable planning, one of the most unfortunate realities is that black communities are more subject to environmental racism. Whether it is dumping toxic waste, the use of dangerous products like lead paint, or having a lack of clean water; Black people are much more likely to live in unhealthy conditions. This is a reality I want to change.”



Whytne Stevens is an emerging urban planner and designer from Dallas, Texas. She currently is a Master’s in Urban Planning student at Harvard Graduate School of Design. She holds a BA in Art, Media, and Design with a minor in Architecture and Urbanism from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois, graduating Summa Cum Laude in 2019. Since graduating, she has worked in community development and urban planning educational initiatives. Some of her more notable professional experiences include working on the JPMorgan ProNeighborhoods Grant and St.Philip’s Master plan during her time at The Real Estate Council in Dallas, helping the stakeholders to realize their plan through her community, social equity, and urban design insights as well as research on best urbanist practices. She also created the Professional Development Initiative for Dallas, Texas, helping connect high school students interested in architecture, urban planning, and environmental science to internships, opportunities in those respective fields. With her expertise in art, urbanism, and social justice to design people centric cities for all within a social equity and justice framework.



PBCD 2020 Fellow- Terrance Anderson

Terrance Anderson is a Community Developer who partners with people, neighborhoods, small businesses, and city governments, to build sustainable and thriving communities. After spending ten years in Detroit, Michigan working in neighborhood revitalization, Terrance knows the foundation of creating long-lasting positive impact in communities is its people willingness to believe in the project. During his tenure in Mississippi Terrance partnered with the City of Jackson as well as community leaders from the Delta Region to develop programming and housing for at-risk-youth, the homeless and formerly incarcerated populations.

Terrance has landed media coverage around Metro Detroit and Mississippi. He was recognized by President Obama, U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow and Carl Levin because of his advocacy work for criminal justice reform and expansion of funding for the federal programs GEAR UP and TRIO in economically depressed neighborhoods. He is a member of the Mu Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Lambda National Honor Society and currently lives in New York City.

Terrance holds a BS in Business Management from Wayne State University; MA in Community Development from the University of Detroit Mercy and is currently completing a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from Jackson State University.

Terrance's research during the 2020 Fellowship will focus on the historical African-American settlement of Weeksville (Crown Heights), Brooklyn, New York; which developed shortly after slavery was abolished in the state.

PBCD Student Connection Cont. from page 7

Shanava Saintolien, born and raised in Miami, Florida, is a second year MPA/MSP student at Florida State University. She currently works as a high school math teacher in Tallahassee, FL and is interested in the intersection of education with the planning and public administration fields. Shanava plans to work in local government and aspires to one day be a city manager. In addition to working in local government, she plans to become a social entrepreneur with a focus on helping homeless women and children.



Lights, Camera, Action!



Calling all Former PBCD Executives Officers. We want to hear from you and include your video during the 40th Anniversary PBCD Celebration.

Here is the task:

1- Record a one minute or less video responding to the following statements below: (You can use the record feature on your cell phone to make the video. Be sure to record in an area where outside noise levels are low):

- ⇒ During my tenure as a PBCD Officer/ Committee Chair, the Division was engaged in
- ⇒ My most memorable moment(s) was/were
- ⇒ My wish for PBCD in the next 40 years is

2- Upload your video by sending it to the info_pbcd@planning.org and cc: drhull1971@gmail.com as a backup. Please include your name and PBCD Conference Video in the subject line.

The deadline to submit videos is **November 1, 2020**. Videos will be highlighted throughout the conference.

PBCD: Celebrating 40 Years of Planning Excellence

Check out the PBCD website:
<https://blackcommunity.planning.org>

info_pbcd@planning.org

Planning and the Black Community Division (PBCD) of the American Planning Association is an organization that provides a national forum for planners, administrators, public officials, students, and other interested individuals to address issues of significance to the black community, promote exchange between members and other organizations, encourage and support professional development among black planners and provide career information.

Victoria Mason-Ailey, AICP
Chair

PBCD Executive Officers 2020

Derek R. Hull
Immediate Past Chair

Franchesca Taylor, AICP
Vice Chair

Chanel Williams
Secretary/Treasurer

Kayla Hunter
Student Representative

Next Newsletter— Winter 2021

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Interested in submitting articles or serving on the newsletter sub-committee, send us an e-mail.