




Leadership Culver City (LCC) was founded in 2018 to promote more civic engagement among the residents of Culver City. It was formed through a collaborative effort of John Cohn of the Exchange Club of Culver City; Dr. James Limbaugh, President, West Los Angeles College; and me, as an outgoing member of the Culver City Council. An informal steering committee or working group was formed to develop the program and Colin Diaz, CEO & President of the Culver City Chamber of Commerce, and Leslie Robin, Senior Strategist, Center for Nonprofit Management, were added to the group. John Nachbar, City Manager, attended the early meetings as a representative of Culver City.

LCC is a nine-month program that commences in September and ends in May with a graduation ceremony in June. The program meets once a month for a full day. The mornings are devoted to leadership and communication skills training through the Center for Nonprofit Management, and the afternoons focus on topical issues facing Culver City. Each month has a different issue and outside experts and leaders are brought in to discuss the issues with the participants. The program is open to adults 18 years and older who either live or work in Culver City and who have a desire to become more civically involved. Class sizes range from 16 – 21 individuals. Participants pay modest tuition which covers the cost of instruction and meals. Limited scholarships are available to individuals with financial concerns. now commencing its fourth year.

This September marks the fourth session of LCC. The sessions of 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 were canceled due to the pandemic as in-person sessions were not viable. After last year's session (2022-2023) it was felt it was necessary to review the direction of the program and its costs, and that it would be beneficial to re-convene the working group. As the working group had previously been an informal group, formalizing the group would allow it to meet and make recommendations to improve the program. To date the following individuals and organizations have agreed to be a part of the working group: John Cohn, Exchange Club of Culver City; Dr. Alison Tom-Miura, West Los Angeles College; Jesse Nunez, Culver City Chamber; and Leslie Robin, Center for Nonprofit Management. On August 28th, I spoke before the City Council and requested they agendize Culver City officially becoming a part of the working group and to designate a representative from the city. I received three nodding heads for staff to prepare a report.

It should be noted that nine city employees and one councilmember have graduated from the previous three sessions. In addition, several graduates have sought and been appointed to city boards, commissions, and committees.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.



Jim B. Clarke
Program Director