

**McCraith, Linda**

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**From:** McCraith, Linda  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2009 1:54 PM  
**To:** election  
**Subject:** FW: Ken Harris - Candidate for the Detroit Charter Commission  
**Attachments:** 2009 Biography for Kenneth L. Harris.doc; Kenneth Harris 2005 Picture.jpg

Linda McCraith  
Editorial Page  
Detroit Free Press  
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**From:** Ken Harris [mailto:kharris1911@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2009 4:11 PM  
**To:** election; McCraith, Linda  
**Cc:** Ken Harris  
**Subject:** Ken Harris - Candidate for the Detroit Charter Commission

**Name:** Kenneth Harris  
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**Website:** www.DetroitBlackExpo.com  
**Employer:** Michigan Minority Business Development Council, Inc.  
**Employer:** Detroit Black Expo, Inc President/CEO  
**Occupation:** Business & Entrepreneurship Development  
**How Long:** 5 years  
**High School:** Birmingham Brother Rice Class 1992  
**BA Clark Atlanta University:** Class of 1997  
**MA Clark Atlanta University:** Class of 1999  
**Candidate ED Specialist:** Wayne State University Spring 2010

Dear Detroit Free Press Editorial Board,

Thank you for the opportunity interview before your body. Below are the responses to the questions asked in the aforementioned letter of request?

- Please list any previous public office to which you have been elected or appointed, beginning with the most recent. Answer: N/A
1. I am seeking the a seat on the charter revision commission to ensure that tax-payers in the City of Detroit receive leadership qualified to help draft an updated charter revision that can be accepted and passed by its citizens. The charter revision will have a profound economic impact on the City of Detroit.\
  2. Crains Detroit 40 under 40 2007. US Small Business Adminsitration Minority Business Advocate of the Year 2007. I served as the Chief of Staff and Executive Assistant for the Mayor of the City of Southfield, worked Higher Education as for the Department of Student Development, served in Community Health at St. Johns Hospital, lead the largest African American business expo in the State of Michigan and currently serve as Director of Business Development for the largest minority business development council in the country. I sit on numerous boards of directors and have received many awards for serve to the community.
  3. I would bring a complete grasp of the economic climate in the City of Detroit, along with experience with policy interpretation, demographic information and community relationships that will play a major role when time to educate the people of what's at stake.
  4. Dr. William Brooks (Former Chairman of the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce, Louis Green President/CEO of the Michigan Minority Business Development Council, Michigan Teamsters Local 207, and the Dr. Claud Young Political Action Committee. More coming....
  5. Which of the following best describes your approach to the charter revision process?
    - (B) The charter revision commission should consider fundamental changes in the structure of city government, such as the way authority

is apportioned between the executive and legislative branches.

1. If you could change only three provisions of the existing charter, which three would you focus on?
  - a. Council by Districts/Wards
  - b. City Contract Approval Procedures
  - c. City Government Appointee Approval Procedures
  
2. I believe that there should be accountability of our leaders and the at-large system in my opinion does not provide that. Single member districts/wards could be a solution.
  
3. I do support changes in the way the police commission is selected.
  
4. I am open for discussion on the two (2) employee pension funds and would like to hear the communities as well.
  
5. I would participate in all candidate forums sponsored by the Detroit Free Press.

Thank you again for the opportunity Detroit Free Press,

Entrepreneurially,

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