

Recap of the Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) Meeting May 4, 2016

The May 4, 2016 Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM by Vice-Chair Minutello. Members present: Vice-Chair Minutello, Francis Joseph, Gamal Gasser, Nestor Ortiz, Frank Roder, Gary Howell, and Satish Sharma. Members absent: Chair Mai, Robert Chen, Roxanne Bartley, David Chiriboga, Becki Forsell, Tonni Bacoat-Jones, and Terry Kemple. A quorum was not present. Staff present: Albert Coleman and Carmen LoBue from the Office of Community Affairs.

Public Comment: Ms. Lunelle McCallister expressed disappointment that the DAC did not attend the April 26 Confederate Memorial Day ceremony. She introduced Mr. H. K. Edgerton, an African-American activist for Southern heritage and former president of the Asheville, NC chapter of the NAACP. He spoke on behalf of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and referred to the Confederate flag as the Christian cross of St. Andrews. He invited the DAC to the meetings of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans for a dialogue to address the DAC mandate of building awareness and bringing together different groups. Mr. Kevin Wright addressed the council concerning the design of the Veterans memorial park. He invited the DAC to report to the BOCC and clarify the intent of the design in honor of the War Between the States.

Ms. Vivian Heyward, Ms. Trienicia Washington and Mr. Marvin Knight invited the DAC to participate and support the Historic Ybor City's Unity in the Community event on June 12th from 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM at Ybor City Centennial Park, 1800 E. 8th Ave., Tampa presented by the Positive Image Committee. The event is held in benefit of Non-profit organizations for the youth.

Approval of April 6, 2016 Meeting Recaps: A quorum was not present for approval.

Old Business: Vice-Chair Minutello presented a video of the Interact Hillsborough event. She also provided a CD with photos for distribution. Councilmember Ortiz presented Thank you notes for VIP guests and Emcees who participated at the Festival for DAC signature. He led the discussion on the April 16 DAC Festival Highlights & Evaluation. The raffle and winners were announced: Princes Drake won the gift as donated by Councilmember Chen; Keisha Morris won the gift as donated by Vice-Chair Minutello and Ming Zhang won the gift as donated by Councilmember Gasser.

New Business: Council vacancies discussion was tabled for next meeting.

Announcement: None

Adjournment: 9:00 PM; Next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 6:30 PM.