

Recap of the Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) Meeting February 1, 2017

February 1, 2017 Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chair Ortiz. Members present: Chair Ortiz, Vice-Chair Howell, Jennifer Shiver, James Tokley, Terry Kemple, Roxanne Bartley, Raed Khawaja, Virgil Perry, Gamal Gasser, Patti Sanchez, Lynnette Stine, and Francis Joseph. Members absent: Satish Sharma (Notified), Letitia Haynes (Notified), Kamal Patel (Did not Notify), Kate Shaw (Did not Notify), Robert Chen (Did not Notify), and Leon Herndon (Notified). There was a quorum present. Staff present: Albert Coleman, EOA/Office of Community Affairs, Tony Morejon from the Office of Community Affairs, Carmen LoBue from the Office of Community Affairs, Brandon Wagner, Operations and Legislative Affairs Officer, Jennie Tarr, Chief Assistant County Attorney, and Zuleyka Carbajal from the Equal Opportunity Administrator's Office.

Public Comment: "Sing" Xuan Hurt, Jason Rosenberg, Maria Palacios, Alex Ayala, Robert Emerson, Pamela Gomez, Steve Emerson, Donna Davis, Erin Aebel, Michael Newett, Faith Estes, James Shish, Magda Saleh, Marcus Klebe, Hassan Shibly, Jennifer Yeagley, Julie Lyon (yield), Samira Obeid, Kara Ottervanger, Beth Eriksen-Shoup, Marina Welch, Theresa Ferlita, Norma Henning, Jim Waurishuk, Paula Higgins, Margaret Smart, Donna Davis, Johnny Wong, Gabriela Rosales, Elizabeth Antkowiak, Mollie Powell, Andrea Braboy, Paul Thibault (no show), Gonzalo Valdez, Cirenio Cervantes, David McCallister, Elizabeth Guitierrez, Michael Anderson, Paola Ruiz, Kevin O'Neill, Jaime Sykes, Suzanne Young, Jae P., Maria Chapa, Laila Abdelaziz, Carlos Ramirez-Aguilar, Angel D'Angelo, Marc Rodrigues (yield), Majda Rahmanovic, Daniela Hogue, Eric Nelson and Jeff Lucans.

Old Business:

Approval of December 7, 2016 Meeting Recap: A motion was made by Mr. Kemple to approve the December 7, 2016 meeting recap. The motion was seconded by Mr. Khawaja. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Approval of January 11, 2017 Meeting Recap: Mr. Kemple noted that on the third page, third paragraph, which begins, Chair Ortiz stated, in the second line, if there was a majority vote, should be inserted between and, and that. Ms. Bartley stated that if a member is absent it should be indicated if they notified if they were going to be out. A motion was made by Mr. Joseph to approve the January 11, 2017 meeting recap with the edit. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tokley. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Old Business:

Hillsborough as a Sanctuary County Discussion: Mr. Kemple noted that in the meeting minutes of last month, he stated that it should not have been on the agenda. There was no quorum, so the motion made was not valid. There has to be a quorum to have official business. Robert's Rules states that if there is less than quorum, if there is an extreme emergency, a vote can be made. Mr. Gasser stated that he had tallied the number of people that spoke at the meeting today, and that 36 people were for Sanctuary County, 8 against, and 2 were neutral. Mr. Perry noted that at the last meeting, the DAC members wanted to hear from the community, and the community came out and spoke today. Mr. Perry stated that now, the DAC should go to the BOCC and let them know what the community had to say. Ms. Bartley thanked the community for coming out and for their input. She also advised on the upcoming Interact Hillsborough Event. Mr. Tokley stated that now that the DAC has heard from the community, and to come up with something that is going to help Hillsborough County to go forward.

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Chair Ortiz commented that his take away from this meeting is that the community is scared, not so much about Sanctuary County, but how we can help the community. The audience said, hands down it is about Sanctuary County, they are looking for Sanctuary. Mr. Kemple noted that he has stated in the past and is stating again, that the DAC serves at the behest of the BOCC, and that Senior County staff has stated to be careful of what the DAC brings to the BOCC. Mr. Gasser said he felt that the BOCC had created the DAC to be representatives and ambassadors to the community. Ms. Bartley requested a little leadership on, what the motion should be made on, what the DAC is going to do. Chair Ortiz noted that, that is what is trying to be figured out. Mr. Perry stated that he asked for the community to speak and that he is going to fight for the people that are here for Sanctuary.

Mr. Gasser recommended that there is a move today to make a decision because there are other things that the DAC needs to attend to. He felt that it should be finalized tonight. Mr. Khawaja also agreed with Mr. Gasser and that as a Council something should be done about the fear that the community has and let the BOCC know so that they could deal with it.

Mr. Kemple stated that it would be wrong for the DAC as body to encourage the BOCC to defy Federal law. He feels that the information needs to be taken to the BOCC for them to make the decision on what to do.

A motion was made by Mr. Kemple to advise the BOCC of what happened at tonight's meeting, of the speakers and the fears that they have, and to encourage the BOCC to take some action on it. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tokley. Mr. Kemple wanted to add for the BOCC to take some action on it, or kick it back to the DAC to see how the DAC could pursue it further. Mr. Tokley stated that he would support the first motion. Mr. Kemple rescinded the addition. Mr. Tokley supported the first motion.

Mr. Howell noted that the DAC members were appointed to advise the BOCC, so it's within the power of the DAC to make a recommendation. He feels that white privilege has never been addressed and that keeps the DAC from addressing things that are being talked about. He said that this has never been talked about and that he feels that it is a duty of the people that are white, around the table to speak up and to be allies to the people around the table that don't have a voice.

Mr. Gasser made a counter motion to recommend that the DAC send a letter to the BOCC letting them know, depending on the DAC's understanding of the community's needs, that the BOCC examine the chance to accept Hillsborough County as a Sanctuary County. The counter motion was seconded by Mr. Perry.

Mr. Kemple noted that there can't be two open motions on the floor at the same time.

Mr. Gasser rescinded his motion, and if the other motion doesn't pass, he will present it.

Ms. Bartley noted that there are a lot of members of the media present at the meeting and that the BOCC is probably already aware of the community coming to the meeting and speaking. She also noted that not only should the DAC be aware of what the community is thinking, but also what the individual DAC members are thinking.

Mr. Kemple called to question on his motion. He would like to just vote for the motion. The motion states: to advise the BOCC of what happened at tonight's meeting, of the speakers and the fears that they have, and to encourage the BOCC to take some action on it. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tokley. Members for the motion were: Mr. Kemple, Mr. Tokley, and Ms. Shiver. All other members opposed the motion. ***The motion was not passed.***

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Mr. Gasser made a motion to recommend that the DAC send a letter to the BOCC letting them know, depending on the DAC's understanding of the community's needs, that the BOCC examine declaring Hillsborough County a Sanctuary County. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bartley. Mr. Kemple and Ms. Shiver were opposed to the motion. All other members were in favor of the motion. ***The motion was passed.***

November 2nd BOCC Presentation for Discussion: Will be discussed at the next DAC meeting.

Revised Strategic Plan: Will be discussed at the next DAC meeting.

Interact Hillsborough - April 15, 2017: The Interact Hillsborough Subcommittee and the Marketing Subcommittee will need to present something at the next DAC meeting for discussion. A date for the event will need to be decided.

Announcements & Council Member Reports: None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 1, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.