

Recap of the Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) Meeting April 5, 2017

April 5, 2017 Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by Vice Chair Howell. Members present: Vice-Chair Howell, Satish Sharma, Letitia Haynes, James Tokley, Roxanne Bartley, Raed Khawaja, Virgil Perry, Gamal Gasser, Patti Sanchez, Lynnette Stine, and Francis Joseph, Anh Nguyen, and Norma Reno. Members absent: Chair Ortiz (Notified) Kamal Patel (Did not Notify), Terry Kemple (Notified), Robert Chen (Did not Notify), Jennifer Shiver (Notified), Leon Herndon (Resigned). 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, and Zuleyka Carbajal from the Equal Opportunity Administrator's Office.

Public Comment: David McCallister commented that he feels that there shouldn't be any more members added to the DAC, that all the categories are covered. He advised of an upcoming event on April 22, 2017 at the Confederate Memorial Park to celebrate the Indigenous Southern Americans. He also advised of an event on April 26, 2017 at the Memoria In Aeterna monument in front of the Courthouse.

Introduction of New Members: Ms. Reno and Ms. Nguyen introduced themselves to the group again since there were members out the previous meeting and the members that were absent introduced themselves to them.

Old Business:

Approval of February 1, 2017 Meeting Recap: A motion was made by Mr. Gasser to approve the February 1, 2017 meeting recap. The motion was seconded by Ms. Reno. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Old Business:

November 2nd BOCC Presentation for Discussion: Video clip was show of the November 2, 2016, BOCC meeting where Chair Ortiz presented DAC information to the Commissioners, which included adding four new categories to the DAC. At the November 2nd meeting Commissioner Beckner made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner White, and there was a unanimous vote for the DAC to come back to the BOCC with specific direction on what the DAC wanted to do regarding expanding the membership by adding four new categories. There were concerns by several Commissioners regarding expanding, which included too many members and also mission creep. There was discussion by the DAC members on whether expansion would be needed or wanted. Mr. Joseph questioned what the right size of the group would be. Mr. Perry stated that some people represented other categories already. Ms. Stine stated that the DAC represents the whole community and that the meetings are open to the public.

Ms. LoBue advised the group that all material related to the DAC is posted on the website. The members could go to the web page and see all of the documents there.

Mr. Morejon advised the group of the discussion regarding the size of the DAC and that they should make a decision regarding the matter.

A motion was made by Ms. Haynes to recommend not expanding. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tokley. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Revised Strategic Plan: Will be discussed at the next DAC meeting. Dates would be scheduled for all subcommittees so that something can be brought to the next meeting.

Interact Hillsborough: Since we are already in the month of April, the Interact Hillsborough event will not be on the schedule for this month. There was discussion on whether to have it possibly in June, September or October.

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There were concerns for June since it is a hot month. The dates of June 17th and June 24th would be looked at as far as availability for location, as well as other events and the Commissioners' calendars.

Vice Chair Howell asked the four subcommittees of possible dates that they could meet. The Marketing Subcommittee will meet on April 19th at 6:30 p.m. The Interact Hillsborough Subcommittee will meet on April 12th at 6:30 p.m. The Youth Subcommittee will be tabled to next time. The LDP Subcommittee will notify of a date since Mr. Kemple was not present.

A motion was made by Ms. Haynes to add to next month's agenda the topic of lowering quorum. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gasser. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Vice Chair Howell informed the members that the letter regarding Sanctuary City had already been sent to the BOCC.

Announcements & Council Member Reports:

Mr. Tokley informed the group of a poetry recital he will be giving at the Jan Platt Library, Saturday April 8th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. He read one the poems to the group.

Ms. Sanchez asked Mr. Tokley if she could read the poem at an event this Saturday, April 8th at the Safety Harbor Marina.

Ms. Nguyen informed the group of April being the month for celebration for the Vietnamese. She also informed the group of several days of free medical tests done for seniors at the Vietnamese Cultural Center. There will be an event in St. Pete. She will provide the information to the members.

Ms. Stine informed the group of Festa Italiana, April 6th and also the weekend of April 8th, in Ybor City. She will provide the information to the members.

Mr. Gasser informed the group of Ramadan, which is two months from now.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 3, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.