

Recap of the Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) Meeting March 6, 2019

March 6, 2019 Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Vice Chair Fared. Members present: Virgil Perry, Yvette Jones, Matthew Chernesky, Conchita Burpee, Alvin Jin, Terrence Kemple, Angela Birdsong, Nan Park, Rosalia Smith, Melissa Braswell, Reham Fared, Vijay Deshpande, and Majid Vasigh.

Members absent: Chair Griffith (Notified), Sean Colin (Did not Notify), Marta Pearson (Notified), Sabah Uddin (Notified), Jermaine White (Did not Notify), David McCallister (Did not Notify) and Jennifer Shiver (Notified). There was a quorum present.

Staff present: Albert Coleman, EOA/Office of Community Affairs, Eli Rodriguez, Office of Community Affairs

Public Comment: Aishani Shrihatz and Omar Peerzada both spoke regarding banning conversion therapy.

Visitors: 6

Old Business: Approval of February 6, 2019 Meeting Recap: Mr. Jin stated on his two motions, that the first section needed to be taken off and moved to second paragraph. A motion was made by Ms. Jones to approve February 6, 2019 meeting recap as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chernesky. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

New Business:

Updates on Subcommittees:

Gay Conversion Therapy Subcommittee: Mr. Chernesky read out the resolution he drafted for Gay Conversion Therapy Ban.

There was discussion of the Gay Conversion Therapy Ban by the DAC.

A motion was made by Mr. Chernesky to submit the Gay Conversion Therapy Ban Resolution to the BOCC. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jin. ***Motion carried 10-3.***

Name Change Subcommittee: Mr. Jin spoke regarding making changes on the names for some of the communities on the DAC. There was discussion on proposing name changes once the census comes out and reviewing the data.

Communications Subcommittee: Mr. Jin discussed possible ways of updating the website. There was proposal of e-mail template or a form being created on the website for citizens to submit concerns to the DAC.

One Hillsborough Diversity Fest: Ms. Fared discussed the event being pushed to the fall. Ms. Rodriguez advised on having the event at one of the County Facilities.

A motion was made by Ms. Burpee to change the One Hillsborough Diversity Fest event to October. The motion was seconded by Mr. Perry. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

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Announcements:

Ms. Braswell announced that on Saturday March 12th at 4 p.m. there will be a St. Patty's event at the Marty Maccione Club in Ybor City.

Mr. Perry announced that the Exciting Central Baptist Church would be having a cultural event at Sunday's service.

Ms. Fared announced that on Friday March 8th, it is International Women's Day and March is Women's History Month.

Mr. Deshpande announced that every other Wednesday, there would be a Senior night at the Indian Cultural Center.

Mr. Vasigh announced that March 20th is the Iranian New Year, Nowruz, the Iranian Persian American Society of Tampa Bay is having a gala at the Downtown Tampa Hilton on March 23rd.

Ms. Smith announced there would be a Safe Summit on May 4th, they are seeking nominations for community heroes in Hillsborough County, this is due April 5th.

Ms. Jones announced the Tampa Bay Teen Networking Summit and passed out flyer.

Mr. Perry announced that as of March 7th, he is fully retired from the United States Army, which is also his birthday.

Mr. Coleman invited the DAC to participate in the Gay Pride Parade.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m. by Vice Chair Fared.

Next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.