

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

November 6, 2019 Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Griffith. Members present: Chair Griffith, Matthew Chernesky, Melissa Braswell, Angela Birdsong, Norma Henning, Nan Park, Rosalie Smith, Yvette Jones, Virgil Perry, Lesem Ramos, and Chrissy Taylor.

Members absent: Majid Vasigh (Notified), Marcia Minutello (Notified), Luis Laracuenta (Resigned), Debbie Crockett (Notified). There was a quorum present.

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

Public Comment: None

Visitors: 0

Old Business: Approval of October 2, 2019 Meeting Recap: Chair Griffith declared unanimous consent on the approval of the October 2, 2019 Meeting Recap.

New Business:

Summit Challenge Overview: Chair Griffith stated that Ms. Minutello could not attend the meeting, so there would not be an overview at the meeting tonight.

Subcommittee Updates:

Strategic Planning Subcommittee: Mr. Chernesky spoke about the meeting, which was held an hour before the regular DAC meeting. They are still in the preliminary stages of forming the Strategic Plan. Some changes will be made and they will be shown in the meeting minutes. Ms. Taylor questioned whether there could be a chat room to have discussions regarding the different things going on in the DAC. Chair Griffith stated that due to the Sunshine Law that it would not be permitted. Any sort of group that meets for discussions has to be open to the public. Any sort of communication has to go through Zuleyka Carbajal to be sent to the members.

Communications/Marketing Subcommittee: Ms. Jones stated that the Subcommittee met right before the meeting. It was their first meeting. Ms. Jones spoke about the marketing that was done for the September 21st event. She stated that they discussed how it looked before, that it stated where and when the DAC met. They are looking into bringing the color to the cards for future events. They discussed advertising the meetings and other events on Facebook, Instagram and even in newspapers. Mr. Coleman stated that the County does already have the different social media accounts. Anything that the DAC wants advertised can be done through the social media staff through the County.

One Hillsborough Subcommittee: Ms. Braswell stated that Ms. Minutello brought the 2016 flyer and they went over that. They discussed vendors, schedules, food options. Ms. Braswell stated that Ms. Minutello discussed the Summit versus the festival and what the difference is.

New Business:

Announcements:

Ms. Smith announced that the State Attorney's Office is having an Expungement Clinic on November 12th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. it will be at 419 Pierce Street.

Ms. Jones discussed the 2020 Census is hiring people at \$18.50 an hour. She will be sending out a flyer. You can apply online.

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Ms. Henning passed out event cards to the Islamic Council's annual banquet that is being held on November 23rd. She also announced the movie, Witness at Tornillo being held on December 7th at the Tampa Theatre.

Mr. Chernesky announced that Tampa Pride held a fundraising gala the prior weekend that was a great success. The Conversion Therapy Ban has been overturned by a Federal Judge and the City of Tampa is appealing.

Ms. Braswell stated that the I.B.E.W. has partnered up with Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful and will have an event on Saturday November 16th from 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. They will be cleaning up in East Tampa. They will provide lunch after.

Ms. Birdsong announced that the Caribbean Cultural Association will be having their annual gala. The invitation was e-mailed out already, but to let her know if you want further information. On November 20th, she will be having a seminar regarding Medicare for the League of Women Voters in the American Legion Building on Sligh.

Ms. Griffith stated that there are still some vacancies. Mr. Chernesky stated that a friend tried to apply to one of the vacancies, but applications weren't being accepted at the time. Ms. Rodriguez stated that if we can get his e-mail she will give it to Ms. Finley to have when she sends out the notification.

Chair Griffith announced that UT Pride was hosting an event this evening and is proud to say that she created the event over a decade ago. It is called the Coming Out Chronicles. It is an opportunity for people to share their coming out stories.

Ms. Henning stated that she had spent the last several days at an event called Connect and Propel Tampa where they talk about different issues in the Tampa area. They talked a lot about diversity and inclusion. She participated in a group that is planning a Summit that is going to partner with Middleton High School to talk about healing of the racial rifts.

Mr. Chernesky stated that the group will be getting an e-mail from Zuleyka with the document attached from the Strategic Planning Subcommittee that they will be using while working on the Strategic Plan. Members can print out and do notes and send in any of their suggestions on changes.

Adjournment: Chair Griffith adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Next Council meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.