

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

February 6, 2019 Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chair Perry. Members present: Chair Perry, Yvette Jones, Matthew Chernesky, Conchita Burpee, Marta Pearson, Sabrina Griffith, Sabah Uddin, Alvin Jin, Terrence Kemple, Angela Birdsong, Nan Park, Rosalia Smith, Melissa Braswell, Reham Fared, and David McCallister.

Members absent: Sean Colin (Did not Notify), Jermaine White (Did not Notify), Jennifer Shiver (Notified), Vijay Deshpande (Notified), Majid Vasigh (Did not Notify). There was a quorum present.

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

Public Comment: None **Visitors:** 3

Old Business: Approval of December 5, 2018 Meeting Recap: A motion was made by Ms. Griffith to approve December 5, 2018 meeting recap. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chernesky. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

New Business:

2020 Census Presentation: Kathea Johnson, 2020 Census representative came and gave presentation regarding the 2020 Census.

Introduction of New Members: Nan Park - Far East Asian, Angela Birdsong - Caribbean, Melissa Braswell – Northern and Southern European, Rosalia Smith – Hispanic/Latino.

Updates on Subcommittees:

One Hillsborough Diversity Fest: Ms. Fared stated that at previous meeting the DAC voted to have the event at the Fairgrounds. Ms. Rodriguez voiced her concerns of having the event there. First of all if enough people would come to fill up the room and also the cost of the venue. Ms. Burpee named the amenities and perks of having the event there. Ms. Fared gave the new members an overview of what the event is about. Ms. Fared noted that the subcommittee would start meeting on a weekly basis.

Mr. McCallister gave the new DAC members an overview on the DAC By-Laws.

Remote Meetings: There are now three remote meetings. They are scheduled for April 3rd at Jimmy B. Keel Library, August 17th at the Ruskin South Shore Library, and December 4th at the North Tampa Library. The libraries will advertise the meetings.

Voting for Chair and Vice Chair: For Chair Position: Sabrina Griffith nominated herself. Ms. Burpee nominated Ms. Griffith. *The vote was unanimous* to elect Ms. Griffith. **For Vice Chair Position:** Ms. Burpee, Mr. Chernesky, Mr. Perry and Mr. McCallister nominated Ms. Fared. *The vote was unanimous* to elect Ms. Fared.

Chair: Ms. Griffith

Vice Chair: Ms. Fared

Mr. Jin inquired about changing the category names for the DAC members, specifically the Asian categories. A motion was made by Mr. Jin to form a Communications Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCallister. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

A motion was made by Mr. Jin to investigate changing the titles of the DAC members. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pearson. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

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Mr. Chernesky spoke regarding Tampa City Council having passed a ban on conversion therapy.

A motion was made by Mr. Chernesky to establish a committee to compile information and then draft language that can then be presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Birdsong.

Announcements:

Ms. Smith announced that they have a collaboration with Stage Works, February 7th will be the premier of Ready, Steady, Yeti, Go. It is a fundraiser and the proceeds will go to Hillsborough High School students to have transportation to and from the theater. The play touches on racial disparity.

Ms. Pearson announced that she is working with two groups, one is called HERN, it meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Well Care Community Room on Waters. It is a program that assists ex-offenders re-entry. The other is called Power Net of Tampa Bay, it provides services to ex-offenders. They meet on the second Wednesday of each month, also at the Well Care Community Room on Waters.

Ms. Braswell announced that at the West Central Labor Council, they are having a screening for a documentary called At the River We Stand, on February 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Griffith stated that it is Black History Month and there are lots of events.

Vice Chair Reham stated that on February 9th, from 12:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. there is a City of Tampa Candidate Forum. It will be held at the Islamic Society of Tampa Bay on Sligh Avenue

Ms. Birdsong announced that the Caribbean Community Association will be holding a presentation for Black History Month, it is called Facing the Rising Sun. It will be at the Community Center on 22nd Street. It will be February 15th at 6 p.m.

Mr. McCallister stated that he attend the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day in Cross City, Florida. He attend the February 6th BOCC Meeting. He was in Tallahassee last Monday in support of the Soldiers and Heroes Monuments Protection Act. Ybor Festival will be on February 23rd in Ybor City.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. by Chair Griffith.

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