

Recap of the Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) Meeting June 1, 2016

The June 1, 2016 Hillsborough County Diversity Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chair Mai. Members present: Vice-Chair Minutello, Francis Joseph, Gamal Gasser, Nestor Ortiz, Frank Roder, Gary Howell, Satish Sharma, Roxanne Bartley, and Becki Forsell. Members absent: Robert Chen, David Chiriboga, Tonni Bacoat-Jones, and Terry Kemple. A quorum was present. Staff present: Albert Coleman from the Office of Community Affairs and Zuleyka Carbajal from the Equal Opportunity Administrator's Office.

Public Comment: Mr. David McCallister commented on no provision of filling empty chairs in Council. He has expressed his interest in joining the DAC and that his particular ethnic group has not been represented. He commented on the different groups that are not being represented.

Approval of May 4, 2016 Meeting Recaps: Mr. Joseph made a motion to approve the Meeting Recap of May 4, 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gasser. Members present voted to approve the Meeting Recap of May 4, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of April 6, 2016 Meeting Recaps: Council did not take a vote.

Ms. Bartley expressed to the Council that she had spoken to Carmen prior to the May 4th meeting indicating that she was on stand-by waiting on a call, the previous meeting she called but the phone number did not work, and she wanted to state that she had said she was available by tele-conferences, but never got a response back.

Old Business:

- Council vacancies discussion: Mr. Coleman advised the group of the five different vacancies available, which are: African American, At Large, Hispanic, Native American, and one Northern and Southern European. Mr. Sharma inquired if there was one for Indian/Asian, and Mr. Coleman responded that it is not on the list for vacancies at this current time, but it could be advertised, because there is currently only one person. Mr. Gasser commented that there was one vacancy for Middle Eastern. These seats will be advertised to be filled.

Ms. Forsell inquired on term limits, whether they have to be done in August, so there should be more openings. Mr. Coleman stated that the Council had to come up with a decision on how to decide who should stay on versus who would leave. The Council has not been through that process yet.

There was discussion by the members present to maybe by show of hands to see who would be staying on the board. Not all members were present so it would be on next month's agenda to discuss and a formal vote. Mr. Ortiz inquired on how many members were not present at the meeting, there was ten in attendance, and four absent.

Ms. Bartley made a motion for members to maintain numbers on the board that sixty days prior to the end of your term, to notify staff via e-mail of a decision to resign. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortiz.

Mr. Coleman read out what the rules state regarding a Council member's term.

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Ms. Bartley made a motion for next meeting that the Council vote on any new groups that a council member would like to recommend be added. Mr. Gasser amended the motion to add that the Council make it a standard to recommend to the BOCC of new groups to be added to be advertised to begin in January. Ms. Minutello seconded the motion. All members present voted. Motion carried unanimously.

- Expense vs. Budget: Chair Mai asked Mr. Coleman to put together an expense sheet for the budget for the DAC. The sheet was passed out at the meeting. There was discussion on seeing other numbers associated with costs that the DAC incurs.

New Business:

- BOCC Report: Chair Mai discussed putting together a small presentation or some slides to show the BOCC what the DAC did for the event, maybe a five minute presentation. To also include how they came to the event and photos that were taken. The presentation would be presented at a BOCC meeting. The date of the BOCC meeting to try to get the presentation to the BOCC is the July 20th meeting.
- Unity in the Community Event: Mr. Coleman advised the DAC of the event coming up presented by the Positive Image Committee which had come and spoken to the DAC the previous month. They would like the DAC to participate at the event and also do entertainment if able to. The event will be Sunday, June 12th. The DAC will have a tent at the event.
- Workgroup Updates:
 - Group 1 – Building Awareness Among Different Groups: Nothing to Report.
 - Group 2 – Youth Concerns: Sent e-mail on May 23rd and a second one on May 31st to Rick Valdez, Tiffany Lerch from Parks, and Joe Monroe of Hillsborough County Youth Leadership Council, about doing Summit in South County possibly in September, but haven't heard back.
 - Group 3 – Leveraging DAC Member Engagement: Nothing to Report.

Announcements & Council Member Reports

Ms. Forsell commented how she inquired with Carmen about the list of the vendors the DAC has to be able to share with other groups. Mr. Ortiz has that list and will share it with the other members.

Mr. Joseph advised the group of event on Saturday, June 4th, for Caribbean Heritage Month, festival will be at UACC from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. He will send an e-mail out.

Ms. Hartley advised the group of June 11th event for the Barbados Community 50th anniversary of independence. She will send an e-mail out.

Mr. Gasser advised the group of Ramadan when they fast all day and eat at sun down, it will be an open house, possibly for June 17th from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. He will send out an e-mail.

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Mr. Sharma advised the group of the 69th Indian Independence Day on August 14th.

Ms. Forsell advised the group of three events coming up: July 14th Senior Event, August 7th Come to the Yes I Can Disability Day event at Tampa Yankees, and October 1st fair for All Peoples.

Mr. Roder advised the group of June 4th Pride night at the Rowdies, and on June 17th, pride night at the Rays game.

Mr. Gasser inquired of the winners of the gifts, Mr. Ortiz informed him that he had sent e-mails, but has not heard back from any of them. The only option is to reach out to the other two from the second drawing.

Vice Chair Minutello advised the group that in Orlando June 9th, 10th, and 11th will be the Florida Family Café which is the largest event for people with disabilities and their families.

Mr. Joseph commented again about people coming in for next meeting with decisions on whether they will stay on the board or not.

Chair Mai reminded the group of the Strategic Plan. The DAC has that document.

Adjournment: 8: 15 PM; Next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 6, 2016 at 6:30 PM.