



MINUTES
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
Friday, January 19, 2018 @ 11:30 a.m.
Council Conference Room, 10th Floor, City Hall

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:32 a.m.

Committee Members

Council Member Carol Wood, Chair
Council Member Brian T. Jackson, Vice Chair
Council Member Patricia Spitzley - excused

Others Present

LaSondra Crenshaw, Council Staff
Tammy Lemmer – TCOA
Julee Rodocker – Consumers Energy
Griffin Rivers
Dax Carpenter, Disability Network
Brandon Waddell – Attorney's Office
Stacey Locke – Peckham
Guillermo Lopez, LLEAD/LSD
Elaine Womboldt – Rejuvenating South Lansing
Judi Harris - STVCC
Jim Bale - GLLC

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM December 15, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2 - 0

Discussion:

Information on City Boards and Commission Developing policies for inclusion on Boards

Council Member Wood advised that the Mayor would like to create a Commission on Diversity & Inclusion. We would like prepare suggestions to the Mayor on a mission and vision for the Commission.

Council Member Wood gave Council Member Jackson a brief description of what had been previously discussed within the Ad Hoc Committee.

Council Member Wood advised the group that January 26, 2018 that Mayor Schor, Chief of Staff Samantha Harkins, and Marilyn Plummer were invited in to go over the policy we had been discussing during the last several meetings.

Council Member Wood asked the group to look over the draft policy to see if any other changes/suggestions are needed. We have included conflict of interest and disclosure statement for people to fill out. And paper applications as some do not have computers but we want them to have the opportunity with the paper application.

Council Member Jackson asked what the end result of the policy is. Council Member Wood stated we will ask the Mayor to adopt this policy as part of his procedures. We ask that he make it part of the application process, and webpage so the public can see the policy that is out there.

Ms. Rodocker asked is there a time frame on when positions are to be filled. Council Member Wood stated yes the Charter requires ninety days, if not filled within ninety days Council has the ability to make up a three person committee.

Mr. Lopez asked if Boards ask for consumers as part of requirement.

Ms. Locke asked would the Mayor elect or nominate someone with a disability or would he question their skills to discuss the detailed policies. Council Member Jackson asked should we have a clause or section to consider the current sitting Board when adding to members. Also do we want to make Boards diverse. Ms. Rodocker stated we are replacing people on Boards with the same person that left that position. Council Member Jackson asked should we consider the current make-up of the board when considering a new person.

Mr. Waddell advised the legal problem would be if the decision is based on race/gender. Mr. Rivers asked will council play a role in the decision? Council Member Wood advised that Council reviews and could send it back to the Mayor if we believed it was not the right fit. In the past the Mayor would reach out to the Ward Council Member and ask their opinion. However the last twelve years council has not been asked their input. This topic should be brought up next Friday January 26, 2018 when the Mayor is here.

Council Member Wood advised to remove #10 on Application.

Discussion

Inclusion training January 22, 2018

Inclusion Training will take place January 22, 2018 at 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. during the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Council Member Wood started the meeting with explaining to Council Member Jackson what inclusion training is and how it all came about.

Ms. Lemmer spoke about what her presentation will consist of January 22, 2018.

Ms. Womboldt asked if copies of the presentations will be available for the public. Council Member Wood advised yes and also advised if any material you feel is necessary please make sure all departments have copies as well.

Ms. Harris spoke about what her presentation will consist of January 22, 2018.

Ms. Locke and Mr. Carpenter both spoke out what their presentation will consist of January 22, 2018.

Council Member Wood asked whether you are explaining what it takes for refugees to come to this country. Ms. Harris advised she will add a slide explaining this information

Mr. Carpenter stated he would like to see everyone engaging citizens. As this would make it an inclusive process.

Ms. Locke explained October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Council Member Wood advised Mr. Carpenter during their presentation they should speak on crossing the street and the issues it causes being so close to the Disability Network building.

Council Member Jackson asked if Peckham still has flag football team. Ms. Locke advised they have a basketball team.

Mr. Lopez asked how Peckham decides if someone is disable to get a job. Ms. Locke advised their intake team members all have Master's Degrees and they ask certain questions to make that determination. They must have documentation, and a barrier to employment. Peckham has eligibility requirements at the federal level and they have case workers that speak many different languages. Based on statistics forty five percent of the workforce has mental illness (something you can't see).

Mr. Rivers asked does the public get to speak during discussion/action during COW meeting or only during public comment. Council Member Wood advised that no only Council gets to speak but they will provide information as to where they can attend the Ad Hoc on Diversity and Inclusion Meetings if they have additional questions.

Ms. Womboldt suggested that everyone doing a presentation January 22, 2018 should provide business cards to make sure the public can contact them.

Next meeting January 26th, 2018
February Meeting Dates: February 9th and 23rd

Still working on Opioids issues

OTHER

Updates on Participants in the Committee

Screening of documentary Wounded Places Sunday January 21, 2018 at Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing 5509 S. Pennsylvania Ave 6-8pm

Cesar Chavez event March 29th at 12:00 p.m. – City Council Chambers 10th Floor. Time??

Adjourn

Adjourn at 12:47 p.m.

Submitted by,

LaSondra Crenshaw, Administrative Assistant

Approved Feb 6, 2018