

**CITY OF HUBER HEIGHTS
STATE OF OHIO**

Culture and Diversity Citizen Action Commission Meeting Minutes

Name of Body: Culture and Diversity Citizen Action Commission

(CDCAC)

Date: April 6, 2022

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: City Hall – 6131 Taylorsville Road – Council Chambers

Members Present:

Jean Newby
Carla Staigl
Tara Purvis
Arrick Richardson-Excused
Eric Stephens
Fred Aikens-Excused
Yolanda Stephens - Chair
Rhonda Sumlin – Vice Chair

Guests Present:

City Staff Present: Katie Knisley, HR Director

1. Call to Order

Chair Yolanda Stephens convened the Culture and Diversity Citizen Action Commission at 7:10 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Roll call attendance was taken. Dr. Fred Aikens and Arrick Richardson were not in attendance.

3. Approval of Minutes

Chair Yolanda Stephens asked if the commission members had time to review the minutes and not all had time to review prior to the meeting. Rhonda made a motion to postpone approval of the February 2022 minutes until the May 5, 2022 meeting. Eric Stephens seconded the

motion. All members in attendance voted in agreement.

This Culture and Diversity Citizen Action Commission meeting was recorded by the City and the recording of this meeting will be posted to the City's website and will also be maintained by the City consistent with the City's records retention schedule.

4. Swearing in of new Commission member, Ms. Carla Staigl

Commission Chair, Yolanda Stephens and Vice Chair, Rhonda Sumlin swore in the newly appointed member of the Commission, Carla Staigl.

5. Citizens Comments-None

Topics of Discussions:

A. Committee Reports

B. Old Business

- Citizens Review Board
- City Council Recommendations
 - Follow-up timelines on recommendations made to the Council.
 - Action Steps for Council as a follow-up to Proclamation (meeting date)
- Commission Meetings
- Commission Member Openings

G. New Business

6. Committee Reports

Advocacy Committee: Committee Chair, Rhonda Sumlin

Advocacy-Rhonda gave the update for the Advocacy Committee.

Advocacy met on March 23rd at 7:30pm. The Committee is working on the planning and implementation of the Community Health and Wellness Bazaar. The Community Health and Wellness Bazaar is part of Culture Week and is scheduled for June 20, 2022 from 10-7pm at the Community Center on Powell Rd. The vision for the health and wellness bazaar is aimed at eliminating healthcare disparities and promoting equity. 2 sessions, 10-3 and 3-7 Premier Health and Fidelity Healthcare will be doing biometric screening, A1C tests, BP checks, HDL checks, and will have a look and learn booth and can talk to a lifestyle coach about screening results and health and wellness goals. Advocacy is also going to invite other members of the community to attend, as well as WIC, and perhaps some fitness demonstrations and chair massages. Advocacy is

asking for the Commission members to volunteer some time on the day of the event to assist. There will be more information to come on this event. Premier has donated \$2000 towards the cost of this event.

Advocacy also discussed looking for an outside group to hold a PRIDE event in the month of June. The committee is asking for assistance with this event due to Culture week and the numerous events already on the schedule. Advocacy would like there to be a focus on minority members of the LGBTQ+ community and the inequities faced. Rhonda asked for suggestions of groups and/or organizations that might want to hold this type of event.

Advocacy is also looking at collaborating with other boards, organizations or DEI groups for Make a Difference Day events. Make a Difference Day is October 22, 2022.

Education Committee: Committee Chair, Jean Newby reported that the Education Committee met on March 23, 2022. Five items were discussed. On June 23, 2022 the forum, Racism is a Public Health Crisis: Part 2 will be held from 6:30-8:30pm at the Huber Heights Community Center. The forum will focus on the psychological, economic and social impacts of racism. There are two panelists secured. Mr. Ron Jackson, from New York Life Insurance who will discuss the economic impacts. The second person the Committee is working to secure for the panel is Dr. Sonyia Hunt, a mental health professional with over 30-years of experience. The final slate of names will be decided before the May 5th meeting.

The committee discussed the recommendation to meet with the City Council to discuss the proclamation declaring racism a public health crisis. Discussion will take place at City Council's availability to discuss various action items.

Discussed the need for a 2023 Education Committee representative with the departure of Mia Honaker; she was to take that position in 2023.

2022 Committee goals, continue to have two forums a year. Next forum will be in the Fall with the Reform Committee with the Huber Police at Wayne High School.

Finally, discussed the recommendation to discontinue the committee

meetings and as a committee decided that Wednesday would be the day they would be available if the Commission moved forward with the recommendation to change the cadence of the meetings.

Yolanda inquired on how many panelists they want for the June forum. Jean would like to have three panelists and is in need of someone to cover the social aspects of racism as a public health crisis.

Outreach Committee: Jean Newby gave the update for the Outreach Committee. The committee met on March 22, 2022. Discussed Culture Week. For the Father's Day Jazz Concert, June 19, 2022, Dr. Aikens contacted Mr. Terry Twitty for the contract and it will be reviewed and approved. Flier for the event needs to be finalized and will be sent out. Rhonda and Fred met with Josh King on March 24. Rhonda stated the meeting was very helpful, there are 5 vendors and 2-3 food trucks signed up for the Multicultural Festival. Josh did mention that for the Multi-cultural event they would recommend 3-5 food trucks and they need to be set-up by 3pm on the day of the concert and 10am on the day of the festival for inspections. He was also going to check with the Athletic Foundation to see if they are available to assist with the beer garden; they would be in charge of licensing and pouring. For the Father's Day Jazz Festival people can bring coolers and drinks. For the Jazz Festival, we should have 3-4 food trucks for a 5 hour event. On June 19th the event is from 5-10pm, and the concert is from 6-10pm. Food trucks will be open from 5-10pm. Rhonda is going to verify if there are any food trucks for the Jazz Festival. The vendors will be limited to one of each type of vendor for the Multicultural festival. Tara inquired about the list from the World Affair that Mia had mentioned previously. Jean is going to check with Dr. Aikens for that list. The committee will verify the spots available for performers during the day and will report back. Inclement weather plan is usually to reschedule for another date, will have to confirm a contingency plan for the event. Premier Health has some additional funds available to sponsor events, the Commission would need to complete a report by July 23, 2023 if the Commission accepts the funds. Have we considered security for the events?

Reform Committee: Committee Chair, Eric Stephens reported that the Reform meeting was held March 28, 2022. Two agenda items discussed. One item discussed was the use of mental health professionals to respond to some types of police calls. At the last conversation with Chief

Lightner, there were 14 officers that were trained in Critical Intervention Trainings. Arrick had reached out to his contact with NAMI to set-up a meeting between the Reform Committee, NAMI and Chief Lightner on April 13, 2022 to discuss the option of having all officers trained in CIT. Chief Lightner shared information about Crisis Now Montgomery County that will serve as an alternative response for calls requiring a mental health professional. Crisis Now Montgomery county will go live in July. Discussed the intent of the program and its intended purpose. Reform is looking to do more community engagement between the police and youth in the community. In alignment with the previous forum held with the Education Committee, the Reform Committee intends to hold two forums in the Fall. One for High School and one for Middle School. The hope is to hold the event during the school day in order to gather more attendance but no plans have been set at the time.

7. Old Business

a. City Council Recommendations-

- i. Follow-up Meeting with Council Status-There is no update to a date for the meeting. City Council has not been able to set a date. Yolanda did reach out to Mayor Gore and had not heard back from him at this time. Katie has also attempted to connect with council. Yolanda asked if there is a way to get an acknowledgement of the request and a timeline for an answer. The Commission is looking for dates from the City Council for the meeting to be set. Tara suggested that the City Council attend the May 5, 2022 meeting. Eric thought that was a good option if we did not get a response from City Council or request the City Council provide us with dates they are available. Rhonda wanted to ensure the agenda was clear that the Commission was looking for updates on the Proclamation and recommendations.

- b. **Commission Meetings:** Last month, Tara made a formal recommendation to change the cadence in which the Commission meets to two meetings instead of the broad Commission meeting and the four committee meetings. It was decided that the recommendation would be reworked to one meeting a month and task groups. Yolanda asked if we were ready to take action on the recommendation at this time. Rhonda felt there were a lot of events in the process and is unsure how this change will work. Eric suggested that we might implement the change in July after

most of the June events are over. Rhonda is concerned that we need to know where council is with the work and objectives that we have in front of the council. Tara clarified that the recommendation is to be reworked to go down to one meeting and then task groups. Tara also pointed out that as a group we have already drafted out 3 or 4 main objectives, we have the two Fall forums, Make a Difference Day. Tara suggested waiting for the rest of the Commission to vote on this recommendation. Rhonda requested there is a formal recommendation brought back to the next meeting. Decision was made to rework the recommendation to a new recommendation that can be voted on at the May 5, 2022.

- c. Commission Member Openings: The Commission has one open position. One applicant was interviewed and there is one pending interview for the position.

9. New Business-

SWOT analysis-Yolanda reminded the members to post key objectives from the committee members and what they feel we are doing best and where we have room to grow. This jamboard can be used to gather ideas for some main objectives

10. Adjournment 8:40pm.