



City of Huber Heights
Culture and Diversity Citizen Action Commission
City Hall- Council Chambers
6131 Taylorville Road
Meeting Minutes of April 3, 2025
6:00 P.M.

1. Call meeting to order at 6:09 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Present: Mrs. Newby Al-Nasir, Mr. Ibragim Chakhaldze, Ms. Chirsty Trotter, Arrick Richardson, Mrs. Mia Honaker

Absent: Mrs. Yolanda Stephens, Mr. Corey Owens, Mr. Bayram Gulaliev

Note: Let the record reflect that these absences were excused.

3. Approval of Minutes

The prior meeting minutes were unanimously approved with the understanding that corrections would be made.

A. Citizens Comments: No comments.

4. Old Business

A. Nomination and vote for new chair/ vice Chair: Due to limited attendance, a motion was made and passed to postpone nominations until the May Meeting.

B. Juneteenth Planning Update: The Commission reported steady progress in planning the 2025 Juneteenth Festival. A total of eight food trucks and one snow cone vendor have been officially registered. Retail vendor outreach remains ongoing, with several new leads being shared among Commissioners for potential inclusion. The deadline for vendor registration was confirmed as April 15. A volunteer sign-up form was revised and is awaiting final staff approval before being shared publicly, with plans to distribute it across local Facebook groups and community channels. Members discussed attending the April 14 City Council meeting and additional Parks & Recreation and Arts & Beautification Commission meetings to promote the event and recruit volunteers. A "Save the Date" flyer is in development, intended for use in early promotional efforts with local media and news outlets. A grant application is also being submitted to secure \$3,000 in state funding to support programming centered on fatherhood, in collaboration with the Montgomery County Fatherhood Initiative. The initiative, led by Mike Newsom, would provide resources at the event and deliver a featured presentation to highlight services for fathers and families. Finalizing W-9s for performers and entertainers remains



a key administrative task, with certain acts still pending confirmation. Commissioners also discussed incorporating more Father's Day-themed elements to strengthen community turnout and family engagement, especially given the holiday's overlap with the event date.

- C. Multicultural Festival: Acknowledging the delays caused by recent transitions in Commission membership and staff, members expressed renewed commitment to reestablishing the planning process. Mr. Gulaliev, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Honaker, and Ms. Trotter confirmed their participation as members of the event's task force, with Ms. Newby Al-Nasir volunteering to join as well. The staff liaison is committed to initiating an email chain to coordinate the task force, including the Parks Manager, and scheduling planning meetings after 6:00 PM to accommodate volunteers' availability. It was noted that outreach to cultural organizations participating in World A'Fair event which concludes in early May should resume immediately thereafter to maximize participation. The Commission agreed to follow a planning model similar to Juneteenth, including identifying vendors, food trucks, performances, and sponsors. Members emphasized the importance of starting early, given the short three-month planning window remaining. Coordination with Parks staff, development of marketing materials, and recruiting cultural performers will be top priorities in upcoming meetings.
5. New Business:
- A. Summary: The Commission discussed their participation in the upcoming DEI planning workshop with RAMA Consulting, scheduled for April 4, 2025. While encouraged to attend, members were reminded to coordinate attendance to avoid a quorum. There was serious concern over survey feedback showing many residents either didn't know the Commission existed or questioned its relevance. Members emphasized the Commission's prior work such as facilitating legislation and forums and felt these contributions were being overlooked. In response, the Commission formally requested a meeting with City leadership and Council representatives prior to RAMA's final presentation in May. The goal is to clarify expectations, reaffirm support, and determine the Commission's future direction. Commissioners also discussed whether the name "Culture and Diversity" might limit engagement and expressed interest in exploring potential rebranding. The conversation concluded with a call for stronger collaboration, mutual accountability, and better visibility of the Commission's work in the community.



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6. Next Meeting June 5, 2025

7. Adjournment: 7:10 P.M.

Interim Chair

Date

Jeffrey Adams Jr, Interim Chair

Date