



**MINUTES
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY
Friday, December 08, 2017 @ 11:30 a.m.
Council Conference Room, 10th Floor, City Hall**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:33 a.m.

Committee Members

Councilmember Carol Wood, Chair
Councilmember Patricia Spitzley
Councilmember Jody Washington - excused

Others Present

LaSondra Crenshaw, Council Staff
Tammy Lemmer – TCOA
Griffin Rivers – NAACP
Al Salas – Southside Boys & Girls Club
Julee Rodocker – Consumers Energy
Bruce McAttee – Representing US Senator Gary Peters
Dax Carpenter, Capital Area Disability Network
Brandon Waddell – Attorney's Office
Stacey Locke – Peckham
Guillermo Lopez, LLEAD/LSD
Elaine Wombaldt – Rejuvenating South Lansing
Laura L. Griffin – Peckham
Judi Harris—St. Vincent Refugee Services

MINUTES

Councilmember Wood passed the gavel to Councilmember Spitzley.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM October 27, 2017 and November 17, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2 - 0

Discussion:

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

Councilmember Carol Wood questioned if there was any other additional information that should be added to the application? Mr. Waddell was asked about an update regarding adding the word "other" under gender to the application. Mr. Waddell stated it's a judgment call as the word "other" could be offensive but there's no legal reason why you can't add the word other.

Mrs. Locke suggested that gender be a fill in the blank this allows the person filling out the application to put what they are comfortable with.

Mrs. Womboldt stated she spoke to someone and they would like to be able to just choose male or female. As the word "other" is offensive.

Mrs. Lemmer added that there are people that don't identify as male or female. Councilmember Spitzley stated we don't have a designation for race so why do we need one for gender.

Councilmember Wood stated that at one time boards were predominately male and we need to bring balance to the Boards. We are not allowed to use race as part of an application maybe we should remove the option for race and gender.

Mr. Lopez stated it has to do with affirmative action. Councilmember Spitzley added it is too easy for someone to point fingers. When you start assuming you get into trouble. Councilmember Wood asked should "race" could be optional? Mr. Waddell advised he will look into this

Mrs. Lemmer asked why are last four numbers of your social security number a requirement on the application. If it is to do background checks could we remove that question and once the person has been approved the administration could then ask for social security number.

Councilmember Wood asked everyone to look over the conflict of interest policy. The first line should say City of Lansing along with the first sentence that should read a Board or Commission member. Also remove last sentence in the last paragraph.

Councilmember Wood asked the group to look at policy for Boards and Commissions. And stated we should move number 11 down and make a third bullet point, because the above information comes directly from the Charter.

Councilmember Wood question whether the policy should be attached to the application so individuals would know what is expected from them. The Committee discussed how diversity could be accomplished on Boards.

Once the Committee finalized the policy we will invite Mayor Schor in and advise how we came up with these changes and request they be taken under consideration.

Ms. Rodocker asked is there anything saying how the Director or Manager should direct the Board. Councilmember Wood stated we could ask that each Board be required to do an annual report to the Council. Councilmember Spitzley added that report could include budget priorities.

Discussion:

Inclusion training January 22, 2018

Councilmember Wood discussed the Inclusion training which will take place January 22, 2018 and will be in the Chambers and on CityTV. She advised the information provided should include information about your organization and when Council looks at policy, ordinances, and budget what they should include. We will extend an invitation to Mayor Schor to have any Department Heads to attend the meeting. Committee of the Whole will be from 5:30 – 7:00 Jan 22nd. If you have a PowerPoint please get it to us early and we will provide copies to the public and City Council and also give a copy to CityTV so it can be on the screen. We will need you to get your information to us by Jan 12th. Carol stated she will provide a count by January 5th so they will have enough handouts.

Next Meetings: Friday Dec 15th
2018 Meeting:

OTHER

Updates on Participants in the Committee

Prayer Vigil Dec 21st 7pm – Mt. Hope United Methodist Church

Adjourn

Adjourn at 12:37 p.m.

Submitted by,

LaSondra Crenshaw, Administrative Assistant

Approved Dec 14, 2017