



MINUTES
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY
Friday, March 10, 2017 @ 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

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

Others Present

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Stephen Purchase
Stacey Locke, Peckham
Judi Harris, St. Vincent's Refugee Center
Elaine Womboldt, Rejuvenating South Lansing
Tammy Lemmer, Tri-County on Aging
Dax Carpenter, Disability Network Capital Area
Griffin Rivers
Heather Sumner, City Attorney Office

MINUTE

Councilmember Wood passed the gavel to Councilmember Spitzley.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 3, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 24, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Councilmember Spitzley passed the gavel to Councilmember Wood.

Discussion

DISCUSSION – Snow Sergeant Program

Councilmember Wood provided a history on the program and why no funds had been dispersed as of this date. It was confirmed by Finance prior to this meeting that the Finance Department had sent the final language change to Law, and was agreed upon by TCOA. Ms. Lemmer

confirmed she had seen the changes, which reflected language concerns and the timeline. Upon receipt of the signed MOU agreement, the City will pay \$1050.00 to TCOA, and then upon receipt of the payment of funds, Disability Network Capital Area will provide receipts to TCOA and they will provide them to the City. Councilmember Wood directed Law to review the MOU and the funds to see if it was considered a carry forward from last fiscal year.

Mr. Carpenter and Ms. Lemmer spoke briefly on their work together on the program, and the number of volunteers. The number of residents requesting service were at 28, and when service was provided the group only need to assist 23-25 of the 28. The Network has submitted all receipts to their leadership and those have been passed onto TCOA. Mr. Carpenter pointed out that the largest requests for help came from Old Everett area.

Ms. Lemmer acknowledged Peckham for their assistance with funding, which was used last year.

Councilmember Wood asked Law to provide an update on the program at the next meeting.

Update – Inquiry into HR Department on Employee Diverse Hiring Statistics

Councilmember Wood asked Ms. Sumner for an update, and Council Staff read the minutes from the last meeting where Law was asked to pursue further information specific to part time, seasonal and contracted employees. Ms. Sumner did not have the information and took notes.

2017 Cesar Chavez Memorial Event

Flyer was finalized and distributed. Councilmember Wood stated she would be speaking to Mr. Lopez on the event and food items.

DISCUSSION – City TV Program Series

The group continued discussions on a “tag-line”, with the consensus of the group agreeing to “We Are Lansing”. Councilmember Wood suggested using photos from different events at the Capital that would show diversity and asked Ms. Harris to provide a photo from the peace pole presentation. Ms. Lemmer confirmed she had been in contact with Mr. Cochran with CityTV and they are working on future dates for a clip on TCOA. Councilmember Wood encouraged all the other groups present to contact Mr. Cochran also. The first show, she noted, would be an overview of the Ad Hoc on Diversity Committee and the Human Rights Ordinance.

Diversity Spending

Councilmember Wood referred the group to the 2005 Diversity Spending Report, which was a result of a resolution with measures on goals, spending and classifications by ordinance. In 2005 Finance was required to bring a report quarterly, which would outline if they were achieving those goals. Councilmember Wood is interested in doing this reporting again. If that is not possible, the Ad Hoc could reach out to the diverse populations to put in bids to the City for purchasing and services. Mr. Rivers asked if the City has requirements to be placed on a procurement list. Councilmember Wood noted she did not believe there was, but there is a requirement of the ordinance that the bidder has to prove a list of things. The next meeting will include a copy of the current procurement ordinance. Ms. Robinson with the City Purchasing Department will also be invited.

Other

Updates on Participants in the Committee

Mr. Purchase provided an update on PCAC which is an Advisory Committee to the Lansing School District, part of Title 9. The PCAC recently toured high schools and on March 28th at

6:30 p.m. at Elmhurst School, they will have a summer showcase for summer programming. Councilmember Spitzley referred to a past presentation on a fresh foods program which was under-utilized and asked Mr. Purchase to inquire if that can be included in the PCAC summer programming. Mr. Purchase confirmed that the PCAC has had a strong initiative to support the recent bond that was passed, but in the transition they are focusing on the delivery of services.

Ms. Locke with Peckham stated her advocacy group is working at the Federal level to advocate on changing the relationship with State re-vocational programs. The Michigan Rehab Services currently cannot do any placements at Peckham. Ms. Locke will research a template letter on Support from Friends of Peckham for the next meeting.

Ms. Harris with St. Vincents Refugee Charities highlighted the impact of the recent Presidential Executive Order has had. Iraq was removed from the 90 day travel ban, but the 120 day starts March 17th, so they have no expectation for arrivals from March 17 through mid-July. The total reduction nationwide remains at 50,000. Mr. Rivers asked Ms. Harris if the pending law suits will re-tract the Executive Order. Ms. Harris admitted they could, but with active law suits, it delays the 120 days.

Ms. Womboldt stated that Rejuvenating South Lansing is participating in a BWL pilot program, and will meet on March 28th at Alfred Schmidt for an energy efficient program.

Ms. Lemmer informed the group of the ongoing discussion on the Health Care Act that was introduced, and also TCOA need for volunteer for once a month commitments for house visits.

Mr. Carpenter assured the group that they will be proactive for the Snow Sergeant Program earlier in the year.

Ms. Locke asked Councilmember Wood if she would invite Congressman Bishop to a future Diversity meeting, and Councilmember Wood stated she would review future dates to invite him to.

Mr. Rivers asked for the breakdown on the diverse hiring also include a breakdown by Department and pay grades.

Adjourn

Adjourn at 12:56 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Approved April 28, 2017