



Minutes
Committee on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
Wednesday, February 9, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Jackson called the meeting to order at 4:42 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Jackson, Chair
Council Member Brown, Vice-Chair
Council Member Hussain, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Staff
Lisa Hagen, OCA
Mary Bowen, OCA
Mayor Schor
Kim Coleman, HRCS
Guadalupe Ayala
Willard Walker
Linda Sanchez-Gazella, HR
Joe Salazar

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON PLACED THE MINUTES ON FILE. THERE WAS ONLY ONE MEMBER OF THE 2021 COMMITTEE ON THE 2022 COMMITTEE.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present at this time, therefore no public comment.

DISCUSSION

RESOLUTION – Introduction and Setting Public Hearing; Ordinance Amendment to Create Chapter 256; Section 256.01-256.03 Establish Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Board (Administration)

Councilmember Jackson stated that former Councilmember Betz and the Mayor had similar ordinances and wasn't sure the reason for both. Councilmember Hussain said his understanding is this is from the Administration to create an advisory in nature as in the charter. He continued that what the committee is looking to do is put forward to Council for a hearing. Ms. Coleman added that at the time Councilmember Betz thoughts were appropriate and it was suggested that integrating the two would be best and it is now ready to go forward, and it does not conflict with this Committee. Councilmember Jackson then asked Ms. Coleman if the

MRJEA was disbanded, and she confirmed this Committee would take it the rest of the way. Councilmember Brown expressed his excitement in having HRCS involvement his suggestion is when during the discussion time taking racial equity work to this new board and be part of those applicants and have input and feedback. Ms. Coleman concurred and the initial review the HRCS board carries out that function. Councilmember Hussain added it's been a lot of work to this point and, if you recall in July 2020, we announced the MRJEA and in September we were notified the board ceased operations and people were upset. He continued that maybe a conversation down the road about a resolution where this Committee could make recommendations to the Mayor on his appointments

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO INTRODUCE AND SET THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2022. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DISCUSSION – Gun Harm Ordinance Recently Passed in California

Councilmember Jackson asked for an open discussion on an ordinance that San Jose, California recently passed. He wanted to discuss if Lansing wanted to do the same thing and will/won't it work. Ms. Bowen stated based on how they are organized they are a charter city, and they have more leeway on how they govern themselves, free of municipal affairs. She added that their statute doesn't define every instance, it's case by case by their courts. Ms. Bowen continued that in Michigan firearm laws are heavily by the state, we are pre-empted on passing things like this under MCL 1102. Councilmember Jackson asked if we had something prohibiting point, waving, or displaying in a manner, we have the city policy that employees are prohibited from carrying while employment and in the building. Ms. Bowen responded that under 696.01 prohibits discharge of a firearm and brandishing a firearm under MCL 234 subsection e. Councilmember Jackson explained he thought there was a pre-emption, though shall not possess a firearm in Lansing and thought because of state law we could touch on it. Ms. Hagen confirmed the city has weapons and carrying in public places and Michigan and California have big differences, regulation on gun permits is reserved for the state.

OTHER

Mr. Salazar spoke on the river/dam near Moores Park, that he has lots of ideas to clean the rivers up. He continued that something stunk really bad when walking in the park and stuff stuck on the buoys like trash, bottles, everything you can think of. Mr. Salazar stated he tried to contact BWL and they don't want to listen, maybe just having somebody rake it up. Councilmember Jackson stated that all is aware of the problem and suggested maybe we can send an email to Dick Peffley that this is a problem and residents are concerned. Mr. Salazar continued on some ideas, that he has sketches, maybe a creek or blowers in the water like fountains. Councilmember Jackson asked for Mr. Salazar's contact information, and he would follow up with him.

Councilmember Jackson finished with asking the Committee to brainstorm for future meetings on what this committee could work on, like housing, gun violence, etc. things that would be good for Lansing.

No other topics of discussion.

Adjourn

Adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Submitted by Renee Richmond

Council Staff

Approved as Amended on February 23, 2022