

AGENDA

Committee on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion AGENDA FOR JANUARY 18, 2023 AT 3:00 PM



Lansing City Hall, City Council Conference Room
124 W. Michigan Avenue, 10th Floor

To provide input or ask questions on any item that is listed on the agenda,
members of the public may contact the City Council at city.council@lansingmi.gov or (517) 483-4177 prior to the meeting.

Council Member Garza, Chairperson
Council Member Spitzley, Vice Chairperson
Council Member Brown, Member

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Minutes**
 - A. December 14, 2022
4. **Public Comment on Agenda Items (Up to 3 Minutes)**
5. **Discussion/Action:**
 - B. RESOLUTION - Appointment; Prince Jerold Solace; 2nd Ward Member- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Board; Term to Expire June 30, 2026
6. **Other**
7. **Adjourn**

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TTY 711) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.



Minutes
Committee on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
Wednesday, December 14, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Jackson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Raquel Sparkman
Emily Sorroche

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 16, 2022, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Lynn stated he is in the 4th Ward and was hoping to hear the Committee Report and what is going on with the Mayor's DEI Board, lot's of money toward this and haven't seen anything, as well as the gun violence consortium, the public would like to see and hear what is going on.

DISCUSSION

RESOLUTION – Appointment; Raquel Sparkman; 3rd Ward Member; Diversity Equity and Inclusion Advisory Board; Term to Expire 6/30/2023

Councilmember Jackson ask Ms. Sparkman to give a brief intro and explanation on why she would like to be a part of the DEI Board. Ms. Sparkman responded that she has lived in Lansing her whole life, currently works at CMH-DEI and is on the DEI work group when a colleague told her about this board and feels she can bring her experience to it and get involved in the community. Councilmember Jackson asked how she feels about adversity and going against the flow, Ms. Sparkman asked for clarification. Councilmember Jackson asked if she believed she was in the right and someone went against her how would she respond, Ms. Sparkman stated she would have dialogue with that person and asked for clarification if it was something she wasn't familiar with and go from there. Councilmember Jackson asked what DEI means to her, Ms. Sparkman responded that it could mean a variety of things involving, disabilities,

different culture, race, gender, and LGBTQ, just a host of different aspects meaning to be inclusive.

Councilmember Hussain mentioned that he appreciates her interest and with all boards they want to make sure appointees are aware of the importance of attendance, understanding that things do come up occasionally but committee and being there. He added that he would like to invite her to his constituent meetings as well at the Schmidt Community Center, on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF RAQUEL SPARKMAN, 3RD WARD MEMBER OF THE DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION ADVISORY BOARD WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2023.
MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Appointment; Emily Sorroche; At Large Member Diversity Equity and Inclusion Advisory Board; Term to Expire 6/30/2026

Councilmember Jackson welcomed Ms. Sorroche and asked her to introduce her background for the Committee. Ms. Sorroche stated she has lived in Ingham County for the past 20 years and in the City of Lansing for 5 years. She specializes in adversity at MSU Agriculture and Natural Resources, wanting to be an action piece and folks coming together, as well as pieces that have been silent in the Indigenous community. Councilmember Hussain mentioned that it jumped out to him that two members of the Community chose this board and is excited, and added the importance of attendance and making sure Ms. Sorroche is on board, Councilmember Jackson concurred.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF EMILY SORROCHE AS AT LARGE MEMBER OF THE DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION ADVISORY BOARD WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2026.
MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DISCUSSION – Committee Report for 2022 and Equity Diversity and Inclusion Priorities for 2023

Councilmember Jackson referenced the previous year-end report and apologized it wasn't in the packet, he was unable to confirm in time. He went through the recommendations for the Committee and receiving quarterly reports from the Mayor's DEI Board but thought the MRJEA was no longer in existence. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence confirmed it was merged into the Mayor's DEI Advisory Board. Councilmember Brown asked about HRCS quarterly reports and metrics for them. Councilmember Jackson stated that is the next bullet point and continued adding efforts to address homelessness and shelters. Councilmember Hussain added that in January when the Committee is re-established, we can convey all this on the record.

Councilmember Brown asked if this is supportive for this Committee or is the AdHoc Committee appropriate, Councilmember Hussain added that it is be in either one, it will be up to new Leadership to continue or disband the AdHoc. Councilmember Brown asked about adding best practices and policy change, Councilmember Jackson stated that would be part of the quarterly update to review then suggest changes. Ms. Lynn asked about an update on the Walter French building as well. Councilmember Brown added on the City website HRCS has the community providers and as an example they have 70 agency's and 50 get approved then report out on the 20 they didn't and why, having performance measures in order to have a dialogue.

Councilmember Hussain concluded that there is an item in Council meetings for Committee reports if someone chooses to speak. Councilmember Jackson lastly asked about the Sustainability Manager and getting a summary, Councilmember Hussain indicated that doesn't apply to this Committee.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO PLACE ON FILE THE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2022 AND EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION PRIORITIES FOR 2023. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OTHER

Mr. Lynn spoke again on the big issues that DEI should be dealing with regarding violence, poverty, and homelessness, indicating that nobody is asking if it's working and not reporting back. Ms. Lynn had a question about the quarterly reporting back to COW and recommends that be a minimum. She suggested a template that way they know what is being asked and can't say they don't have the information, they have some accountability and can't stay stagnant. Ms. Lynn concluded she is hoping the City will look at opening warming centers in the short term to help with the upcoming winter. Councilmember Brown agreed with Ms. Lynn on the template and the reporting.

Adjourn

Adjourned at 5:13p.m.

Submitted, Renee Richmond

Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on

Application for Appointment to Board or Commission

Thank you for your interest in serving on a Lansing Board, Commission, or Committee.

Certain boards, commissions, or committees require appointees to be a registered elector in the City of Lansing (Charter Section 2-102) and be a resident of Lansing for one year prior to taking office (Charter Section 2-102).

Appointees to every board, commission, or committee must not be in default to the City at the time of taking office (Charter Section 2-103.2) and not have been convicted, within 20 years of taking office, of a violation of the election laws of the City of Lansing, State of Michigan, or the United States; a violation of public trust; or any felony (Charter Section 2-103.1).

Lansing City Charter, Section 5-104, Ineligibility For Boards, restricts certain City employee activities on some boards: "No person holding another City office or activity employed by the City shall be eligible to be a voting member on any board."

Date	06/25/2022
First Name	Prince Jerold
Middle	F
Last Name	Solace
Other name(s) by which you have been known, including maiden names	Prince Jerold Spann
Date of Birth	
Address	2300 Devonshire Ave
City	Lansing
State	Michigan
Zip Code	48910
Email	psolace@lansingfirstpres.org
Gender	Male

If you don't know which ward you live in, visit the [Lansing Neighborhoods Ward Map](#) and type in your address to find out!

Ward	Ward 3
Best Phone Number to Contact You	517 614 5026
In what year did you move to Lansing?	1991
Additional Information Regarding Experience and Credentials	President of MSUFCU's African American Employee Resource Group 2018-2021 -Responsible for designing and implementing the creation, launching, and action plans of ERG as well as setting direction for the groups mission and goals. -Oversee material that is created and communicated from the group -Lead collaborative projects amongst diverse populations at Credit Union
Occupational Background	-Director Of Congregational Life & Community Outreach-Current -President of MSUFCU's African American Employee Resource Group 2018-2021
Educational Background	Pursuing Masters in Strategic Communication (Michigan State University) 2021 Professional Communications, Bachelor of Arts (Siena Heights University 2014) General Studies, Associate degree (Lansing Community College 2012)
Please attach a resume if available.	<i>File(s) attached:</i>  Resume.docx.2022.docx
First Choice for Board to Serve on	Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Advisory Board
Second Choice of a Board to Serve on	Arts and Culture Commission
Third Choice of a Board to Serve on	Human Relations and Community Services Board (HRCS)
Fourth Choice of a Board to Serve on	Downtown Lansing, Inc.
Please comment briefly on why you wish to serve on a particular board or commission. Please be specific as to your goals and ideas about how you wish to contribute to the work of the board or commission.	Hello, I would like to strengthen ties with the following communities: LGBTQ, refugee (documented and undocumented), Latino, African American, American Indian and other excluded or marginalized communities in Lansing. I will actively engage with these communities and intentionally increase contact with them. I will seek ways to draw people from the margins of social life to greater involvement in the city., seek opportunities to include our youth in the community service and increase inter-generational relationship-building.

This certification is not required but may impact potential consideration of the appointment being sought. I authorize the use of the information provided above to conduct a background search, including but not limited to criminal history, residency, and indebtedness to the City of Lansing. If selected to serve, I further authorize additional background checks during the term of my service to ensure the required criteria continue to be met. I also acknowledge that I have the affirmative duty to inform the City if I become aware of any change or condition in my status that fails to meet the required criteria.

Agreement to Background Check Authorization • I agree

Please type your name in this box to signify that you can serve on a board or commission and the information in this application is accurate to the best of your knowledge. Prince Jerold F Solace

Date & Time 06/28/2022 3:00 PM (EDT)

Receive an email copy of this form. Yes

Prince Jerold Solace

2300 Devonshire Ave, Lansing Mi 48910

(517) 614-5026

spannprince@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- Pursuing Masters in Strategic Communication (Michigan State University) 2021
- Professional Communications, Bachelor of Arts (Siena Heights University 2014)
- General Studies, Associate degree (Lansing Community College 2012)

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Lansing First Presbyterian Church

Director Of Congregational Life and Community Outreach

- Build relations within underprivileged communities by strategically connecting people to resources that support financial literacy, promote community engagement and that demonstrate recognizable impact.
- Coordinate community projects, as well as implementing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the organizational level.
- Specialize in Program Development that connects marginalized communities to the ministry of the Church.

President of Justice League OF Greater Lansing Michigan

Create an Endowment Fund through contributions from faith-based and individual donors as well as corporate and community-based organizations.

- Build an Advisory Council made up of African Americans from different sectors in the community, to manage the Fund.
- Ensure the Fund supports education scholarships, home ownership and business startups.

Michigan State University Federal Credit Union 2018- current

Call Center Specialist II/ Financial Service Representative II

- Educate current and prospective members about Credit Union products and services
- Demonstrate adaptability and positivity when faced with complex situations
- Analyze, research, and resolve member's concerns and discrepancies

President of MSUFCU's African American Employee Resource Group 2018-2021current

- Responsible for designing and implementing the creation, launching, and action plans of ERG as well as setting direction for the groups mission and goals.
- Oversee material that is created and communicated from the group
- Lead collaborative projects amongst diverse populations at Credit Union

Highfields 2017 - 2018 (Lansing, MI)**Reaching Higher Paraprofessional**

- Assist Elementary school teachers in creating academic and non-academic curriculums for at risk youth in the before and after school programs.
- Provide conflict resolutions to students by way of modeling and strongly encouraging healthy methods for responding to anger, stress and decision making.
- Participate in conferences and trainings relative to implementing educational practices in the Lansing school district, spreading mental health awareness and utilizing the State's resources.

AmeriCorps/ LeaderCorps 2016 - 2017**Economic Opportunity Coach, Peckham Inc. (Lansing, MI)**

- Facilitate regional and local community projects that provide underserved citizens the opportunity to take part in their community.
- Build coaching relationships as they relate to financial literacy, employability skills and English tutoring.
- Aid team members to make smart, attainable goals in core learning subjects.
- Manage clients progress through Individual Coaching Plans (ICP)

Lansing City Pulse, 2015 - 2016 (Lansing, MI)**Advertising Executive**

- Engage local businesses to advertise within our publication which serves more than 50,000 weekly readers.
- Attend local networking events on behalf of the publication in effort to build stronger, more reliable relationships with businesses in the Greater Lansing Area.
- Maintain knowledge based of products, marketing, and advertising techniques.

Evolve Teleservices, 2008 - 2015 (East Lansing, MI)**Account Specialist**

- Provided and specialized in direct sales to a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic body of customers.
- Actively maintained knowledge based of products, marketing, and sales techniques.
- Sold 10 percent above company's goal for 8 months consecutively.
- Frequently recognized by management for excellence in performance.
-

Extracurricular**Japanese Immersion Program****Study Abroad: April 20-July 20th 2015**

- Increased personal knowledge of Japanese culture & social dynamics
- Held a full-time Internship under the Biwako Kisen Company.
- Practiced English with students.

Mental Health First Aid, 2016 (Lansing, MI)

- Trained to provide initial help to people experiencing problems such as depression, anxiety disorders, psychosis, and substance use disorders.

Volunteer Activity

- Chaperone of Historical Black College Tour. 2012-Current
- President of Habitat Young Professionals -2017-2018

BY THE COMMITTEE ON EQUITY DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, the Mayor has made the appointment of Prince Jerold Solace as the 2nd Ward member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Board for a term to expire June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the nominee has been vetted by the Mayor's Office and meets the qualifications as required by the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Equity Diversity & Inclusion met on January 18, 2023 and took affirmative action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council, hereby, confirms the appointment of Prince Jerold Solace as the 2nd Ward member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Board for a term to expire June 30, 2026.