



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Board - Minutes

September 3, 2024

5:30 – 6:30pm

7th Floor, City Hall

Lansing, MI

Call to Order: 5:33 pm

Attendance: Byron Haskins (MAL), Emily Sorroche (Interim Chair), Florensio Hernandez (MAL), Hannah Jones-Nelson (2nd Ward), Terry Frazier (1st Ward)

City Staff Attendees: Kimberly Coleman, Michael Hopson, Daniel DuChene

Approval of Agenda:

The agenda received approval by Florensio Hernandez and seconded by Byron Haskins.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes received approval by Florensio Hernandez and seconded by Hannah Jones-Nelson.

- I. Introductions of the new board members (Byron Haskins and Hannah Jones-Nelson)
- II. **DEI Officer's Update:** Racial Equity grants update was presented to Board Members by Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer: all grants were reviewed by HRC Equity Advisory Board, there was \$250,000 allocated for this initiative, a total of 14 organizations applied. It was also mentioned that the city might want to consider offering a Grant Writing program, which is highly needed. October 2 is the Resource Fair for Homeowners and Renters Rights was shared with board members.
- III. **Standing Committee Updates:** No one present for the Justice and Safety Committee, no update. Economic Empowerment Committee reported on the BIPOC Small Business Online Toolkit proposal that was submitted. The Community Sustainability Committee update included discussion on the proposed townhall event.
- IV. **Unfinished Business:** The Human Rights Ordinance was the focus of the meeting discussion. It was recommended that all board members review the Lansing's Human Rights Ordinance and submit recommendations, and the board discussed developing a uniform process for reviewing all ordinances. The board was informed that all the city ordinances has been reviewed for legality and the board's task is to review them using a DEI lens. The ordinance review process belongs to the DEI Advisory Board. What lens are we using to review City of Lansing Human Rights Ordinance? Rubric used to review ordinances was discussed by all board members. Board members agreed that we would use the questions Michael Hopson shared with us all to guide in the ordinance review process.
- V. **Ordinance Process,** discussion on what the process looks like and how to change an existing ordinance was discussed. The DEI Advisory Board members' recommendations will be sent to HRCS (Michael Hopson, DEI Inclusion Officer, Kim Coleman), then, shared with City Attorney, Mayor, and requires a majority City

Council Member approval to adopt any new recommendations or changes to an ordinance being recommended by the members of this body.

Municode was suggested for Board Members to use if interested in learning more about what types of ordinances exist: [Code of Ordinances Online Hosting \(MunicodeNEXT\) | Municode - Powered by CivicPlus](#)

- VI. **New Officers/elections:** Discussed waiting to have the election of the new board until we have all vacant seats filled, Byron made the motion, seconded by Hannah. The Board needs to come up with the election process/method.
- VII. **New Business:** Hannah asked if we knew how many new applications for the DEI Board have been submitted to date. Response was that it is the mayor's job to fill these vacancies, and we hope to have a few more new members soon.
- VIII. **Announcements:** Emily Sorroche shared that Friday, September 27, 2024, and Saturday is Michigan Indian Day at Adado Riverfront Park. Michael Hopson announced the City of Lansing Hispanic Heritage Month celebration on Monday, September 16 in the City Hall Lobby.
- IX. Adjourned meeting at 6:38pm