



MINUTES
COMMUNITY DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
VILLAGE GREEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
WEDNESDAY
June 2, 2021
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

The special meeting began at 6:01 p.m. via Zoom. Those present included: Heather Karr, Councilmember & Chair; Andy White, City Manager; Stephen Hrytzik, Chief of Police; Taylor Brown; Elina Coyne; Dustin Sun; Tamika Vinson-Reid, DAAHC Team; Karen J. Mitchell, City Clerk, and other interested parties. Dee Miller and Robert Davis were absent.

Heather introduced Tamika Vinson-Reid with the Delaware African American Heritage Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of May 19, 2021 were approved as written.

NEW ITEMS:

- August 29, 2021 Festival:

Heather said that they did not have as much information on the proposed event planning as hoped for because the event planning contract will be going back before Council for a second reading on June 15th. Heather was unable to get with Pam Miller from the Chamber because Pam is on vacation this week. She will follow up next week. She asked that everyone follow up with their contacts so that as soon as the event planner is in place, they can jump on it.

Andy explained that although he has not yet secured the event planner through Council, he will be following up with the Chair of the Finance Committee tomorrow and the firm he seeks to hire. He believes there is overall support for this, but there are still a few pieces to be added. He anticipates Council will pass it at their next meeting. Andy also reported that the concert band will be playing on August 27, and the Communications Director felt there is an opportunity for us to have some presence there with the concert band, and we could work with them to provide a specific playlist.

Elina confirmed that she was okay with using her concept of Passport to Powell. She has started the communication process with her various contacts, hasn't been able to make contact, but will follow up with them.

Taylor reached out to her contacts at the Indian Festival, Asian Festival, and Festival Latino, explained the concept and asked for vendors/entertainment/crafts, etc. in their network that may be interested in this event. She is waiting to hear back. She anticipates they will have additional questions. She will also reach out to Columbus Black.

Tamika Vinson-Reid explained the mission of her organization, which was founded in 2018, and expressed interest in assisting with the August 29th festival.

Dustin confirmed that hula dancers and musicians are available to participate in the August festival as soon as the date is firmed up.

OTHER MATTERS:

Andy wanted the committee to know that there was an incident reported at the Memorial Day parade by a Bexley couple who was disturbed and upset by one of the floats that was playing Dixieland music. Andy intends to respond with an email expressing regret, explain that the City does not endorse this type of statement and that it will work to do better moving forward to ensure that this does not happen again. He would like the committee to review the email and endorse it before it goes out. He also would like the committee to help the City come up with guidelines for events with third party vendors to ensure that the City is sensitive to all in the audience at events so something like this does not happen again.

Heather suggested another special meeting at 6:00 pm on June 23, 2021 via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m. The next regular meeting of July 21, 2021 at 6:00 pm.