



**COMMUNITY DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 19, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Heather Karr called the July 19, 2023 Community Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Committee members in attendance included Heather Karr, Dustin Sun, Elina Coyne, and Robert Davis. Also, in attendance were Jason Nahvi, HR Manager and Ryan Ault. Citizen Participation attendance was Alyson Lowe, Lee Webb, Spencer Webb, and Eden Sulzer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of CDAC Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2023

CDAC Minutes 05172023

CDAC Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2023 approved with a correction of the date of the Passport to Powell event to August 18, 2023 by consensus.

TODAY'S BUSINESS

Passport to Powell Update

Ryan Ault began by stating the East Room would have a couple different scenarios for the exhibition. The Library is discussing with the Friends of the Library about a presentation. The Lucy Depp property could be spotlighted with a showcase in the East Room and educate the community.

Master Kim's Marital Arts, Muhanna Dance, G.O.R.E.E. Drum and Dance, and Bach to Rock are confirmed for the entertainment with the event. The Mariachi Garibaldi and Indian Dance Group are still being discussed to join the event. Ryan indicated lineup will be diverse and entertaining.

The event will have henna and face painting for the children. Salon Institute will be doing braids for children with tinsel. Annie's Wine Cottage, Huli Huli, Friends of the Library, Ciao Ice Cream Truck, Pablo's Havana Café, Columbus Coffee Company, Tacomania, Spanglish Food Truck, Powell Pharmacy, Daddyman BBQ, Aladdin's, Mrs. Turbo's Cookies, Liv Luv Tie Dye, Artina, Caricatures, and Dream Catchers are participating in the event.

Ryan Ault feels the event will have many activities for children and adults. Heather Karr asked about a community arts project being involved and Ryan Ault indicated he is working on getting an artist involved.

Ryan Ault was able to get information on a drone show for the event. It is \$300 per drone and the City would need one-hundred and up to one thousand drones for the show. The cost would be too high and Ryan Ault continues to look into the show. Heather Karr indicated the cost would be too high.

Dustin Sun asked how many more vendors the event had this year compared to last year. Ryan Ault stated there would be significant more vendors than last year and it would have more of a Powell Festival feel compared to a typical Third Friday event.

Heather Karr asked about bingo cards for the children instead of passports. Ryan Ault stated he would get more information on tying the bingo cards to a vendor and then a gift basket. Heather Karr asked that the passports be as easy on staff as possible with putting them together for the event.

Dustin Sun asked if the local businesses were donating items or selling tickets? Ryan Ault stated he was trying to get the businesses to do a children's event or give out a sample of food.

Citizen Participation

Heather Karr stated the participants as the meeting wanted to discuss the Powell Pride event that did not happen. Heather Karr stated the event was scheduled for June 3, 2023 but because of the size of the current Powell staff and the Memorial Day Parade and the Powell Festival it was decided to hold on the event.

Alyson Lowe stated she was is a business owner in Delaware and Marysville. Alyson Lowe is involved with Delaware Ohio Pride as a Board Member. She has been working with the Pride Committee and Secretary of the P-Flag Chapter in Delaware and the local Coordinator for the Parasol Patrol. Alyson Lowe saw the June 3rd date for the Powell Pride event and saw it was on the same date as the Delaware Pride event and felt the two Cities should work together.

Alyson Lowe stated the logo for the Delaware Ohio Pride organization encompasses the entire County and they are looking to expand as they get bigger. The Rainbow Roster are business safe spaces for the LGBTQ community to shop in Delaware County and the businesses get a sticker to display in their windows. There is also a window competition amongst the businesses because of the flag ban. It is called Battle of the Businesses. The Pride Community supplies a flag to each business that wants to display one. Lee Webb said the organization also has postcards for "4 Ways to Be A Pride Ally" and their annual report. They have helped Marion with their LGBTQ coalition and Marysville a couple times. Lee Webb discussed how Powell and Delaware could work with each other on events and not pull resources from each other.

Heather Karr indicated most Pride events, except Worthington Love, are not City sponsored events and non-profit sponsored events. Heather Karr stated the City was looking to bring Delaware Ohio Pride on to help with events or put flags up as a non-profit organization. Heather Karr stated the City was attempting to get business buy-ins for the event too to get something started.

Alyson Lowe stated the Pride event does not have to be in June and could take place in October which is LGBTQ history month. November has the Trans Day of remembrance too. Elina Coyne asked if September would be a good month for an event and Alyson Lowe stated anytime would work and does not have to be restricted to June. Lee Webb said organizations have different events such as picnics and some are doing bigger events and support from the City does help. Alyson Lowe stated the first year Delaware had their event they partnered with Unity Community because the event happened on June 19th. Lee Webb said the City still helps with logistics and permits. Delaware Pride does private security for their events and last year they did have some protests for their event and it was alleviated quickly. The first year they had 40 vendors and in 2023 their event had around 60 vendors. Lee Webb stated their Mission Statement is for all of Delaware County and that includes Powell. They work with Delaware City Schools and Olentangy and Buckeye Valley.

Alyson Lowe stated Delaware Pride started as a Pride Festival committee and they have branched and developed an education development committee and have presentations, courses, and classes for businesses on various topics for Councils, Chambers, and cities to learn more about how they can be more diverse, supportive, and safe. There is also an events and social media committee for picnics, drag shows, and First Friday events. They have had three events at Nocterra in Powell. Prohibition and Huli Huli have expressed interest in having shows as well.

Heather Karr stated she did some searching and did not find a Powell Pride group. Lee Webb said they would welcome a Powell group whenever it is established.

Eden Sulzer stated she was in attendance as a mother who wants to see more of this in Powell. She was inspired by the Black Lives Matter march and would like to see Powell do something and partner with Delaware Pride.

Elina Coyne stated the group does a tremendous job with the work they have done and feels it is growing and important that they are reaching out to people. Elina Coyne felt it was a great opportunity for the City to come up with a good idea.

Dustin Sun said the group was experienced with putting on events and the City could learn from them on how to move forward. Dustin said Eden Sulzer's comments meant a lot and that is what the committee wants to hear that they are doing the right thing.

Alyson Lowe asked Eden Sulzer if there was a group of people who would be interested in organizing. Eden said yes and there is an LGBTQ group in high school and could be an opportunity for them to do more. Heather Karr stated there is a group in Olentangy High School. Eden Sulzer said it has not come together in an organized way and would like to copy what the Delaware Pride does. Eden Sulzer said Powell could do a picnic and then the next year it could be held in Delaware.

Alyson Lowe said the Rainbow Roster is for any business in the County. The application is on the Delaware Ohio Pride website and any business can apply online. Lee Webb said the list of businesses are always changing and updated due to different circumstances.

Spencer Webb stated Delaware Pride is looking for a home base and currently works out of COhatch in Delaware. Elina Coyne suggested the group reach out to Pam Miller with the Powell Chamber and could help with rental space or with helping the group find space. Heather Karr stated that Powell has entered into talks with COhatch with headquarters in Powell. COhatch

would work with nonprofits to help the business grow. Alyson Lowe said COhatch was looking to grow to 200 locations. Lee Webb stated as their organization grows they have a need for storage and more space.

Alyson Lowed stated there is a need for a LGBTQ safe community center for children and adults. Lee Webb said the group was in talks with Kaleidoscope to have an outreach center to house different LGBTQ organizations but COVID put an end to the talks. The group would like to have a center to work with different organizations.

Heather Karr thanked the group for coming to talk to the committee. Heather Karr stated based on conversations with residents sees a need to make connections and partner for the future. Heather Karr stated the committee was formed out of the Black Lives Matter march and the City put forth a resolution against racism and the Community Diversity Advisory Committee was formed. Dustin Sun is the business representative for the committee. Passport to Powell is in the third year now.

Elina Coyne stated Passport to Powell started because of an initiative she took on. Elina presented to City Council because of her daughter's experience in school. Elina noticed there is a need to bring the community together. Elina's daughter helped come up with the name and Elina presented the idea in front of Council. It was a non-profit event and Elina looked for sponsors and then it was put on hold because of COVID. Elina stated Heather Karr asked her to be a part of the committee and the City and Board Members help with putting on Passport to Powell.

Edena Sulzer asked if it was too late to add some aspect of Pride to the Passport to Powell event. Ryan Ault said the group could get together to come up with different idea. Lee Webb asked if the Delaware Pride group could register as a vendor for the event and have a tent with information. Heather Karr stated when the Pride event could not go forward the suggestion was to have some part of it roll into Passport to Powell. Ryan stated he would get a vendor application over to the group.

Lee Webb asked if there was a way to have a basket at their tent to raise funds for the local GSAs. Ryan Ault stated the City has to be cautious on how they handle fundraising.

Heather Karr thanked everyone for attending.

FUTURE BUSINESS

Next Scheduled Meeting – September 20, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Robert Davis moved to adjourn. Elina Coyne seconded the motion.

Motion to adjourn approved by consensus.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: AUGUST 16, 2023

Heather P. Karr 11/18/23
Heather Karr,
Chair

Elaine McCloskey 11/18/2023
Elaine McCloskey,
City Clerk