



Diversity and Inclusion Commission Meeting

Monday, May 13, 2024 5:30 PM

City Hall Board Room

Online Via Zoom -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89083635861?pwd=MU5xVzJXdk03cG15RHVJbUVFa2VSQT0z>

Minutes

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Parkville Diversity Commission at 05:30 PM at City Hall, 8880 Clark Avenue, Parkville, Missouri on May 13, 2024, and was called to order by the Chair, Mahnaz Shabbir.

Assistant City Administrator, Jeffery Rhodes, called the roll as follows:

Present:

Dr. Vince Carlisle
Mahnaz Shabbir
Rhonda Weimer
Brent Uhrmacher
Tiana Heath
Eunice Westra
Manika Karki

Absent:

Alex Salazar

2. Citizen Input

- A. The Parkville Presbyterian Church- Social Safety Net
Presentation by March Sportsman and Co-Char Mike Vaughn from the Parkville Presbyterian Church.
Information and details about the community services and social support services that the church offers to Parkville.

PPC has been a part of the community since 1845, one year after the founding of the town. The church was founded by George Park and other members of the community. Adams Park is named after one of the founding members of the "Parkville Community Church." There are 120 members of the church, 60 who title.

We are presenting to you this evening because we are looking for partners within the community, including this Commission.

Mr. Vaughn outlined the community focused programming of the church - food pantry, polling place, Parkville Living Center, AA Meetings, Town Hall Meetings, etc.

The Church sees itself as a partner to our community's social service network - to all. Religion is not a requirement. The church has brought in folks who were seeking shelter or who were in trouble. Mr. Vaughn shared the story of a young woman who was found along Bell Rd, with nowhere to go. Additionally, there were two men sleeping behind Nick & Jake's. Police brought them to the church and they worked with them to help them. Mr. Sportsman shared the story of an immigrant family who came to the church for help - they were non-english language speakers. The church has helped with job placement, housing, food security, and language support.

- Mr. Uhrmacher - How many people do you feed from the food pantry?
 - About 500 per year
- How do you go about increasing donations?
 - It's about giving them cash so they can buy food and leverage their buying power.

- Ms. Shabbir - Where do you please folks seeking housing?

A handout was passed out and will be shared with the entire Commission and added to the minutes.

- We have placed folks in the church, just temporarily. We have moved away from that and work with local hotels for short stays. We also work with Hillcrest Ministries to get them enrolled there.

3. Action Items

A. Approve the minutes from regular meeting on March 11, 2024

ACTION: It was moved by Commissioner Tiana Heath and seconded by Dr. Vince Carlisle to approve the minutes from March 11, 2024, with one amendment - please add the attendance record to the minutes..

RESULT: Motion Passed 5-0.

4. Non-Action Items

A. Draft-Community Survey Questions

How will this be distributed?

- Question 1-5 are OK
- Question 6 - gives the option for no answer. - clarify NONE for an option
- Question 7 - the question presumes that the reader knows which resources are available.
- Question 8 - else is not appropriate. Is there anything you would like to see...EDITS MADE

Commission wanted to vote on this item, but since it is not on the action agenda, it needs to get the BOA after a special session is called to vote on the item and recommend approval. We will likely move to the BOA on June 4.

B. Schedule of diversity speakers- Brainstorm/draft opportunities

Who do we want to come and speak to us? Tied in with our calendar of events?

VC - who is the audience? Why would folks want to come to hear someone speak about something like that?

VC - we lead the demonstration of the diversity of our community. We could make a video series of diverse perspectives.

VC - What are others doing that we want to emulate?

EW - we're trying to build info about DIC - doing something like this, could be productive.

MS - start with the Commission and ask questions of who they are and why they live in Parkville. Raise awareness about what we don't know that we don't know.

MK - take videos, share on social media

JR - include our list in The Pulse - profile folks in the Pulse

EW - how do we bring visibility to diversity in our community AND share that with those communities?

TH - like the idea of using social media, to get the word out about these issues/ideas. Social media connectivity to the website - working to drive traffic and awareness

BW - social media statistics - , FB (8,900 followers), X followers (3,100 followers), IG followers (1,900 followers), Text Caster (1,200), Mail Chimp (1,500)

Examples of speakers:

- Asian Pacific Islanders
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- LGBTQ+ Month
- Other speakers?
- Park Hill School Students
- What can we share on Social Media

5. Unfinished Business (postponed from prior meetings)

- A. Review suggested calendar of inclusive holidays
merge the FYIN calendar and the city's calendar. How to integrate those things

6. Other Business

- A. DRAFT- Strategic Plan for the Diversity Commission
Strategic Plan draft - time to talk about things and add some details, timelines, ideas.
What are the next steps?

- Section 1 notes: Add/INCLUDE local organizations in PKV for partnership or ideas
- ADD HIGHLIGHT TO F

- ADD SECTION G to add partnerships that can help us find needs (unhoused folks in town, etc)
- Identify the social needs in the community, identify economic diversity.

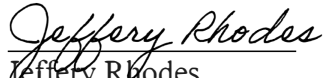
- Section 2 notes:
- Section 3 notes: hiring, training, policies within staff - City MGMT

Other priorities? Next steps?

7. **Adjourn**

Chair Shabbir adjourned the meeting at 07:03 PM.

Submitted by:


Jeffery Rhodes.
Assistant City Administrator

July 8, 2024

Approval Date