



MINUTES
ANNA DIVERSITY & INCLUSION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
ANNA CITY HALL, 111 NORTH POWELL PARKWAY
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021, 6:30 PM

The Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board of the City of Anna held its regular meeting on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held at Anna City Hall located at 111 North Powell Parkway (Hwy 5) to consider the items below.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm by Dyanne Lockridge. Members present: Roxxanne Aragon, Dyanne Lockridge, Curtis Scretchen, Amanda Kellam, Rose Williams, Kathryn Ross, Malverse Jackson, Gina Maria, Pete Cain, Kimberly Jones. Members not present: Lottia Windham.

2. Invocation and Pledge.

Invocation and Pledge led by Pete Cain.

3. Discuss Communications from the Board.

Councilman Josh Vollmer addressed the Board and stated that the Board is not politically affiliated. The City Council created this Board to alleviate and stay in front of potential racial, ethnic and cultural problems. The Board was strategically planned, organized and membered by selection and appointment by the City Council. The Board exists to establish relationships within the city and various groups and to unify the cities various groups. The City Council received feedback from neighbors that believed this Board was a political action group. Screenshots were sent to the Council and the Council would like to clarify the intent and purpose of the Board. Board members are not political action committee members and there is no hidden agenda. This Board exists to make recommendations to the Council. The Board also does not have City funding allocated to it. Councilman Vollmer is urging everyone to participate in a respectful and non-partisan manner. Councilman Vollmer explained that we are here to serve others and wants all to work together without bickering or hidden political agendas. The expectation of the City Council is that everyone that sits on the Board remain active in the community, compliant with City standards of conduct and remains non-partisan as they work with the community.

Councilman Vollmer also mentioned that several Advisory and City Boards have vacancies that will be opened soon and encourages neighbors to apply if they are interested in volunteering to serve the City. Councilman Danny Ussery wants everyone to think about what this Board should be doing. Everyone has a voice and a difference of opinions and is encouraging inclusion and diversity at the community level regardless of everyone's differences. Councilman Ussery also encourages conversation amongst the

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Board and the community to ensure that all voices are heard and everyone is given a chance to participate and be engaged.

In addition to the Council Member's discussion and direction, each Board member expressed their views and feedback related to the newsletter and expressed how they view the Board should move forward.

4. Neighbor Comments.

Neighbors were displeased and spoke against the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Commission newsletter:

Caleb Krone
Grant Murray
Sinisa Slavnic
Liz James
Averil Provcop
Julie Coleman
Rodolfo Canton Jr.
Judith Waldrop
Dan Dixon
Bret W.

Andrew Michrina stated that he was not receiving surveys and wants the City to mail surveys to him so he can respond on city matters.

Neighbors were supportive and spoke in favor of the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Commission newsletter:

Jimmy Onkangi
Heather Skinner
Rafael Torres
Jennifer Edwards

5. Subcommittee Reports.

5.1 Chamber and Local Businesses: Gina Maria met with the EDC CDC and with Kevin Hall. She was not able to meet with the Chamber of Commerce due to the winter storm. Pete Cain mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce positions are opening up with vacancies, but in order to apply a person must be a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

5.2 Community Events and Programming: Rose Williams will share a small video highlighting the Black History Month neighborhood virtual event that took place in February. Rose Williams is still waiting on an events calendar for the City of Anna and will provide it when it is made available.

5.3 Internal Processes: Amanda Kellam spoke regarding the March newsletter and that it will include: 1 D&I profile on a Board member as well as feature 1 woman owned business in honor of Women's History Month. Gina Maria will assist with obtaining

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profiles on various women owned businesses in Anna and will choose a few at random to be featured in the D&I newsletter. Amanda urges the Board members to submit ideas for future newsletter content.

5.4 Police and Public Safety: Dyanne Lockridge mentioned they will meet virtually on Friday March 5 at 2pm to engage the Chief and his staff and to see how the D&I can collaborate with the PD. Dyanne will share the result of that conversation on her subcommittee report at a later date.

5.5 Youth: Curtis Sretchen plans to host a meeting with the other committee members to implement a plan of action and engagement and will share the result of that conversation on his subcommittee report at a later date.

6. New Items for Discussion.

Ryan Henderson discussed the communication dissemination process going forward. See Staff Reports section for further details. The Board will meet in April to discuss the Collin McKinney statue and will provide a formal Board recommendation to the City Council in May. The Board will also listen to neighbor comments in the April meeting regarding the Collin McKinney statue.

7. Chair Report.

See Neighbor Comments section, subsection "Board Member comments to neighbors for full comment detail from Chair. No additional comments from the Chair to notate.

8. Staff Reports.

Ryan Henderson addressed the Board regarding the communication process. All communications from the Board will be voted on and passed by the entire body of the Board. Three Council members will also review all communications, going forward. This is the new communications and approvals process regarding all written newsletters and publications from the Board going to the public.

9. Approve Minutes from February 2, 2021.

A motion for approval of the February 2, 2021 minutes was made by Kathryn Ross and seconded by Amanda Kellam. All in favor, motion carried.

10. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 9:57pm by Dyanne Lockridge and seconded by Amanda Kellam.

Dyanne Lockridge
Chair of the D&I Commission

Roxxanne Aragon
Secretary of the D&I Commission

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