

DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

February 15, 2022

The regular meeting of the **DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD** was called to order at 6:33 P.M. by Chair Hicks-Lee at the Southwest Focal Point Senior Center in the Main Hall.

DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD

Present: Chair Hicks-Lee; Vice Chair Burns; Members Tewari, Azad, Brewster, Landrian, Burgess, Acuna, and Prospect

Absent: Members Comfort, Sicard, Edwards, Potter, Mathew, Surin, and Zacarias

Also Present: Jay Shechter, Liaison; Heather Needelman, Assistant City Attorney; Nadia Ally, Board Secretary; Danielle Spradley, Chair of Education Advisory Board; Lisa Sporillo, Liaison to Education Advisory Board

There was no quorum until Vice Chair Burns arrived at 6:53 p.m.

LIAISON REPORT

Liaison Shechter reported that he had a conversation with the City Manager and it was approved with other departments to have publications in English, Spanish, and Creole. He also contacted Broward College in regards to their MLK Day program, which they no longer have funding for. Chair Hicks-Lee thanked Member Acuna for suggesting publications be accessible in different languages.

PRESENTATION FROM MRS. SPRADLEY

Dr. Sporillo introduced Mrs. Spradley to the Diversity and Heritage Advisory Board. Mrs. Spradley gave an overview of the Education Advisory Board and how they go about recommending items, which they do through the annual report.

Member Azad asked if secondary schools learn about cultures of different people. Dr. Sporillo confirmed there are multicultural events, social study standards are followed, and they celebrate different groups each month. Member Acuna asked how they go about implementing an item. Dr. Sporillo answered that the board gives her direction as she is the city liaison. Member Tewari asked if social studies textbooks are available to look at and he referenced an issue found in a California textbook. Dr. Sporillo advised that the standards can be viewed online. Mrs. Spradley stated that the items come from the state, which the county and schools follow the curriculum. Member Prospect asked how advisory boards work and the steps it took to get the student

ambassador program approved. Dr. Sporillo said the recommendation came from the board and it was worked on and revised. Member Tewari asked about holidays and if the school system follows the county, which Dr. Sporillo confirmed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Member Tewari, seconded by Member Azad, to approve the meeting minutes of January 18, 2022, as presented, passed unanimously.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

On a motion by Member Landrian, seconded by Member Tewari, to excuse the absences of Members Sicard, Surin, Zacarias, and Edwards, passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Hicks-Lee advised members to continue submitting recommendations for criteria. Member Prospect asked if there is criteria for naming parks or memorials. Liaison Shechter said he will find out. Member Tewari asked what is inside of the Dream Center Liaison Shechter said it is for functions.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Hicks-Lee shared information about Black History Month and displayed figurines of several Black Historians.

Member Prospect said the information shared was very good but it should be showcased. Liaison Shechter informed members that there are displays in City Hall, Studio 18 and The Frank events, and Jazz concerts. Member Acuna mentioned the Get with the Prose event at Studio 18.

REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hicks-Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadia Ally

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Board Secretary

Approved: 3/15/2022

