

DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

September 19, 2023

The workshop meeting of the **DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD** was called to order at 6:32 P.M. by Chair Hicks-Lee at the Southwest Focal Point Senior Center Pembroke Pines, FL 33025

DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADIVSORY BOARD

Present: Chair Hicks-Lee, Vice Chair Prospect; Members Tewari, Industrious, Azad, and Burgess

Absent: Members Burns, Comfort, Brewster, Sicard, Edwards, Potter, Mathew, and Landrian; Alternate Member Acuna

Also Present: Liaison Schechter, Assistant City Attorney Heather Needleman; Board Secretary Nicole Lafrance

EXCUSED ABSENCES

There was no quorum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was no quorum.

LIAISON REPORT

Liaison Schechter opened the meeting by stating what a great job Chair Hicks-Lee did at Board Night. The topic of absence was brought up, and discussed how they could get members to the meetings such as some type of incentive. Member Tewari mentioned how on one of his other boards every year the members receive a certificate of appreciation, which he feels is nice to be noticed for their service. Liaison Schechter mentioned how absences are an issue with advisory boards across Pembroke Pines.

Liaison Schechter then goes on to mention an event the city is doing to honor veterans called the Veterans Portrait Project, where they have a professional photographer come out to honor veterans and they tell their stories pre and post service. Liaison Schechter congratulated the board members because this was something they discussed and was brought to the attention of the commission and approved. Liaison Schechter also mentions an event going on by the city, Walktober, which will be held from October 2nd to the 31st. Liaison Schechter mentions the Flea Market, food drive and Holiday Fantasies being held at the Carl Shechter Community Center.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Hicks-Lee brings up the attendance issue again and her and Assistant City Attorney Heather Needleman discuss the laws and the ordinances of the board. Liaison Schechter mentions this has been brought up to commission and perhaps we can bring up the incentives, for example when someone at the community center has 300+ volunteer hours they are celebrated with a party.

Chair Hicks-Lee mentions the budget meetings by commission and how was happy to see Juneteenth being celebrated she would like to see more such as a dinner or more recognition. Chair Hicks-Lee mentions how this month is Hispanic Heritage month and hopes to see some events the board has suggested incorporated in the budget for the year. Liaison Schechter states that he will get with Christina Sorensen and see if she can make it to one of the Diversity and Heritage meetings to help explain the budget. Member Industrious asked about the budget meeting and Liaison Schechter mentioned how the monies for this year have already been accounted for.

Vice Chair Prospect asks about the progress of the Pembroke Pines Resident Guide. Liaison Schechter states that it is finished and can be found on the Pembroke Pines website. There is a brief discussion about how everything is online on the website including the City Connect newsletter. Member Tewari states how much better the Pembroke Pines website is now, it has much more information and is easier to use.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hicks-Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Lafrance
Board Secretary

Adjourned: 7:00 PM
Approved: