

Warrensburg, Missouri
Diversity and Inclusion Commission
Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2019

Attendees

Voting Members: Chair Suzy Latare, Heather Jepsen

Ex-Officio Members: Brent Thomas, Robin Allen, Jane Kiger

City Staff: Matthew Lue

Visitors: Dmitri Meyer (WAFB) and Sara Lawson (DSJ)

I. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 7:06pm. A quorum was not present so meeting was determined to be informal and informational only.

II. Minutes of the November 15th meeting were reviewed.

III. Old Business

- A. Ordinance Update: Discussed ideas in response to the suggestions of City Attorney Doug Harris. Going forward we need to draft a letter to the City Council. We want to be sure we have more members on board and in agreement with our proposal. Matthew can help us with the language.
- B. Community Events and Outreach
 - a. Girl's Night Out – Due to the changes in staffing at Survival this event is on hold.
 - b. Ethnic Festival – Matthew thinks there may be a college intern who is interested in taking a lead on this project. We may be too late for this spring but we are still interested in working on this idea.
 - c. Multicultural Night at the Middle School/High School – Can we get the multicultural club back together at the High School as a start on this? We would need a teacher to sponsor. Folks will ask around to see if there is interest.
- C. Community Survey – Preliminary results were distributed at the meeting. How skewed could this survey be? Who are our responders? Would the comments help us understand this? We are thinking that maybe we need to try again and get some more demographic information so we have a better idea of what we are looking at.

IV. New Business

A. We had a lengthy discussion about how we might do more in the schools. It seems like there is a disconnect between the big push for anti-bullying that the schools are already doing and the need for a diversity/tolerance discussion that would help in this area. Can we get a Gay/Straight Alliance back in the High School? What can we do to combat the negative experience many of our youth have in the schools here in Warrensburg?

V. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned around 8pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Jepsen