

Diversity & Inclusion Commission
July 1, 2019, Minutes

Invitees in attendance:

- Voting members: Erica Collins, vice-chair; Heather Jepsen; Barbara Mayfield.
- Ex Officio members: Chris Aumiller (WAFB), accompanied by his wife; Nolan Brooks (City Council Liaison).

1. Call to order by Vice-chair Erica Collins in the absence of Chair Suzy Latare.

2. A quorum was not available; therefore formal action was not taken. Items of discussion included the following:

3. Welcome to new WAFB ex officio member Chris Aumiller, Director of the 509th Bomb Wing Equal Opportunity flight and the 442nd Fighter Wing Equal Opportunity office. He was accompanied by his wife.

4. Guests included: Dmitri Meyer, a resident of Warrensburg and Senior Enlisted Leader for the WAFB Equal Opportunity Office, who is interested in participation with the Commission; Sara Lawson, Daily Star Journal; and Dorothy Arvizu, resident of the rural area outside Warrensburg, who has a longtime interest in inclusion, especially involved with Native American issues.

5. Community Events and Outreach:

a. Potential activities

i. Barbara has requested information from Swank movie distributors regarding the cost of a membership. She will report findings at the next meeting.

ii. Suzy has submitted the Commission's letter of concern to Warrensburg School Superintendent Scott Patrick. He asked to meet with her to discuss the concerns before taking it to the Board.

Additional discussion: A family has contacted Erica saying they left Warrensburg due to treatment of their children in Warrensburg schools, preferring to have their children educated in Knob Noster. Chris confirmed the family Erica mentioned had contacted his area for assistance with the Warrensburg School District. Dmitri and Mrs. Aumiller indicated no similar concerns had been raised at the schools on base.

b. Events

i. Get the Red Out, Sept. 5, 4-6:30: A tent will be provided. Barbara volunteered to serve for the first half of the event; Heather may also be able to work. Last month Suzy, Erica, and Morris volunteered.

ii. Ethnic Festival: The date has not been set. Organizers are checking on other events that may be competing for the dates considered. Dmitri indicated that WAFB may have groups interested in participating.

c. LGBTQ+/Multicultural Club: A report will be made later.

d. Community Survey: Amber Clifford-Napoleone, Ex Officio member of DIC, has conducted a survey on feelings of inclusivity in Warrensburg. She is unable to attend DIC meetings on Mondays and would like to arrange an alternate opportunity to share the findings. The Commission discussed additional avenues for collecting data from the community, e.g. Daily Star Journal. U.S. Mail, churches, Survey Monkey, campus organizations.

6. Budget: There was a request from a community group for funds for refreshments during their meeting. The budget agreement with the City would not permit this type of disbursement.

7. Term expirations: Will be discussed when a quorum is present. Suzy, Erica, Heather, Morris, and Kamel have expressed interest in continuing involvement. The group will explore staggering length of terms.

8. Other issues brought by DIC members

9. Other issues brought by the public

10. Items for next meeting, Aug. 5, 2019

11. Adjournment