

CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
G.C. COMMUNITY DIVERSITY ADVISORY TASK FORCE

August 8, 2022

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

1. The regular meeting of the Grove City Community Diversity Advisory Task Force was called to order by Chair Reynolds at 6:00 p.m., in the City Hall Lower Level, 4035 Broadway. Roll was called and the following were present:

Chris Moscato, Jeffrey Tadlock, Dorothy Stewart, Caden Bauman, Miracle Reynolds, Shayne Downton, Dan Witteman, Viren Patel, Missy Anderson, Danielle Williams.

Ex-Officio member: Christine Houk, Council Member. Also present: Stephen Smith, Director of Law; Shaina Rowe, Alyx O'Day, Council Assistants.

Absent: Lotus Boes, Teresa Breckenridge.

2. Ms. Reynolds moved to approve the Minutes from 7/11/22; seconded by Ms. Stewart. Motion unanimously approved.
3. Chair Reynolds reviewed the definitions and vision statements that were turned in by members prior to the meeting.

Chair Reynolds read each of the members' vision statements and requested feedback from the group. After discussion, the group decided on ***"Creating a community that thrives by enhancing a welcoming and inclusive environment and celebrates the fact that we are not all the same"*** as the **Vision Statement**. All members unanimously agreed.

Chair Reynolds read each members' mission statement and requested feedback. Mr. Downton suggested that there be a distinction between the mission statement and the specific responsibilities. Mr. Witteman expressed concerns that the public may lose focus if the mission is too long and prefers a more concise statement.

The group combined their thoughts and decided on ***"Our mission is to encourage a community dialogue with regard to all aspects of diversity and to recommend programming and policymaking as shaped by citizens and business representatives from within Grove City"*** as the **Mission Statement**. All members unanimously agreed.

Chair Reynolds read each of the members' suggested definition of 'diversity' and requested feedback. Mr. Downton said he wants the definitions to restate the verbiage used in the Resolution that created the Task Force. Additionally, he wants to ensure they address 'race' and 'ethnicity' separately as they are two different ideas, and that was not included within the Resolution. After discussion, the group decided on ***"Diversity embraces differences in human identity, including, but not limited to age, race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, disability, gender, gender identity or gender expression, sexual orientation, national origin, status as a veteran or special disabled veteran. Diversity ensures all applicable parties are represented"*** at their definition for Diversity. All members unanimously agreed.

Chair Reynolds read each members' suggested definition of 'inclusion' and requested feedback. After discussion, the group decided on ***"Inclusion allows everyone unrestricted space to share their thoughts, ideas, and perspectives. It assures all voices are heard and considered when making impactful decisions"*** as their definition of Inclusion.

Ms. Reynolds read each members' suggested definition of 'equity' and requested feedback. The group discussed the differences between equity and equality and wanted to ensure they expressly represented the differences between the two. After the group discussed their own views on equity, they decided on ***"Equity guarantees access, opportunity, and fair treatment for all regardless of their identity. This means meeting individuals where they are and allocating resources and opportunities as needed to create fair outcomes for all community members. There is not a one-size-fits-all solution (equality) to the problems we see in the world, but there's a right-size solution for each individual's needs (equity)"*** as their definition of Equity. All members unanimously agreed.

4. Chair Reynolds discussed the goals of the next few meetings and what needs to be done before their next session.

Ms. Reynolds suggested creating a list of 'Areas to Explore' after hearing from the community in the next meeting.

The group discussed having an upcoming Open Forum meeting where they acquire feedback from the public, both in person and prior to the meeting. They discussed the possibility of an on-line form for the community; drop-boxes placed in locations around the City; and a sign-up list to be available to speak at the meeting. Ms. Houk asked Mr. Stephen Smith, Director of Law, the rules and feasibility for using a sign-up list prior to a meeting. Mr. Smith shared that we are able to use a sign-up list, however, anyone can speak once the door is open to the public.

Ms. Houk suggested that this Open Forum community feedback meeting occur in October instead of September in order to avoid schedule complications with back to school and Labor Day.

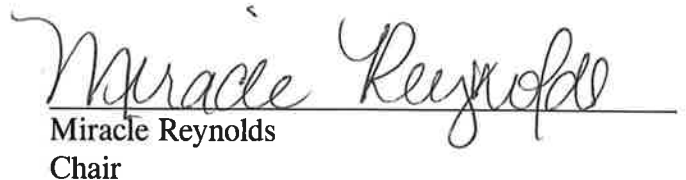
The group decided that the community must sign-in to speak at the Open Forum meeting and be limited to two (2) minutes of speaking time. In addition, the group requested a press release to advertise the meeting in order to optimize responses.

Chair Reynolds confirmed that the group would like an on-line questionnaire form and drop boxes throughout the community, asking "What do you see as opportunities for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Grove City to make our City the best it can be?" for the October Open Forum meeting.

5. Chair Reynolds stated that for the next meeting, the group can strengthen their current definitions; have a conversation about how to analyze community responses; address any feedback that will be received by the September 12th meeting; and prepare for the Open Forum meeting on October 10th.
9. After final comments, a motion was made to adjourn and was approved by unanimous consent.

Adjourned at 7:11 p.m.


Teresa Breckenridge
Secretary


Miracle Reynolds
Chair