



CITY OF WORCESTER
CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES
CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, December 18, 2013 6:00 PM
Worcester Public Library Banx Room

Present: District 5, Steve Genduso, Chairperson
District 2, Katherine Evans
District 2, Linda Parham
District 3, Craig Olson
District 4, Theodore Kostas
District 4, Jesse Gibson
District 5, Douglas Hannam

Absent: At-large, Christopher Roberge, Vice Chairperson
District 1, Richard Trifone
District 1, Coreen Gaffney
District 3, Tina Baxter

Staff: Jeannie Michelson, City Manager's Office

1. Steve called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.
2. It was motioned and accepted to approve the minutes from 11/20/13.
3. Discussion/Vote: Procedure for applicants that cannot attend selection meeting:

a. Phone Conversation:

The members discussed the idea of allowing persons to call if they could not attend a meeting. The majority felt that applicants need to attend meetings:

- So that all members can hear the applicants speak, not just the phone interviewer
- Phone interviews leave no opportunity for follow up questions
- Phone interviews could become an easy road for appointments bypassing the current selection process

Vote taken to allow applicants to call when they can't make a CAC selection meeting:

VOTE: 3 YES – 4 NO (not approved)

b. Stagger CAC Selection meeting days of the week

Members discussed alternating selection meeting days for candidates who have obligations on specific days:

- Most agreed this would be acceptable except for Tuesday City Council evenings.

Vote taken to Stagger selection meetings to include Wednesdays and Thursdays

VOTE: 7 YES – 0 NO – (Approved)

4. 2014 Meeting Schedule (Location to be determined)

January 15, 2014	Wednesday	Business
February 13, 2014	Thursday	Selection
March 19, 2014	Wednesday	Business
April 16, 2014	Wednesday	Selection
May 21, 2014	Wednesday	Business
June 19, 2014	Thursday	Selection
July 16, 2014	Wednesday	Business
September 17, 2014	Wednesday	Selection
October 15, 2014	Wednesday	Business
November 20, 2014	Thursday	Selection
December 10, 2014	Wednesday	Business

5. Discussion: Response letter to Coalition Against Hate and Bias

- Steve discussed his meeting with Kathy Johnson and Jayna Turcheck. He described that the CAC felt it was an attack on them. He said that Jayna was apologetic and wrote the letter on behalf of the Coalition.
- Members discussed the meeting and expressed the following:
 - Belief that perception that CAC is responsible for appointment and therefore blamed for lack of diversity.
 - Craig asked that the T&G Article from when Jayna was hired to be distributed to CAC.
<http://www.telegram.com/article/20120304/NEWS/120309836/0?app=noRedirect>
 - Think the subject should be put to rest and that the CAC should now work to build a bridge with Jayna, Sarai and Mable to talk about things and build a relationship.
 - Need to increase the overall number of applicants – not just minorities.
 - Suggestion to invite Jayna to a meeting in March to ask her for help to get information to community.
 - CAC should put ideas together for January meeting of what they want to accomplish with Jayna.

6. WoMag article discussion

- Steve asked if anyone had comments
- Members decided to table to discussion for January when Coreen would be available.

7. Faith Based Groups: Linda and Jesse met to discuss how to outreach.

- a. Linda will put CAC on the agendas of organizations that she belongs.
 - b. Jesse will draft letter to be sent to organizations requesting meetings.
8. LinkedIn update tabled to next meeting
9. Craig asked that the InCity Times article by Councilor Elect Michael Gaffney be distributed to all CAC members. <http://incitytimesworchester.org/2013/11/30/the-lack-of-diversity-in-city-of-worcester-employment-and-on-city-volunteer-boards-and-commissions/>
10. Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

/jmm

Approved: January 15, 2014