

DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FL

April 19, 2022

The regular meeting of the **DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD** was called to order at 6:32 P.M. by Liaison Jay Shechter at the Southwest Focal Point Senior Center in the Main Hall.

DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD

Present: Chair Hicks-Lee; Vice Chair Burns; Members Tewari, Jacobs-Reed, Azad, Brewster, Edwards, Potter, Mathew, Surin, Zacarias, Acuna, Prospect, and Burgess

Absent: Members Comfort, Sicard, and Landrian

Also Present: Jay Shechter, Liaison; Heather Needelman, Assistant City Attorney; Nadia Ally, Board Secretary

OATH OF OFFICE

Newest member, Kalebra Jacobs-Reed, took the oath of office for the Diversity and Heritage Advisory Board and gave a brief introduction about herself to the board.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

On a motion by Member Surin, seconded by Member Burgess, to excuse the absence of Member Sicard, passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Member Tewari, seconded by Member Surin, to approve the meeting minutes of March 15, 2022, as presented, passed unanimously.

LIAISON REPORT

Liaison Shechter discussed the name of the Dream Park Community Center. He reported that the City Commission made a proclamation that Muslim Heritage Month is May and city information in multiple languages is now available. Liaison Shechter gave an update on contacting the Commissioners regarding board absences. He said that it was done in October 2021 and it will be mentioned at board night. Chair Hick-Lee stated if members do not show up, something should be done. Member Tewari suggested that all members be should attend the board night presentation.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Member Acuna shared information on the City of Pembroke Pines in honor of Pines Day. She mentioned when Pembroke Pines was incorporated and the history of it. Chair Hicks-Lee asked for volunteers for next month's presentations. Member Surin volunteered to speak on Haitian Flag Day and Member Tewari Volunteered for Jewish Heritage Month.

Member Tewari discussed his consolidated criteria list and asked for feedback. Chair Hicks-Lee suggested to review and submit criteria and names to City Commission next month. Member Potter suggested honoring the new Supreme Court nominee Ketanji Brown Jackson. Member Tewari stated that he needs to revise the list and add Member Brewster's recommendation of Cesar Chavez. Member Acuna asked if the person should be alive or deceased. Member Potter suggested changing the person every month or quarter. Member Azad suggested names given should be deceased.

On a motion by Member Azad, seconded by Vice Chair Burns, to only include names of those who are deceased, passed. Yes: Vice Chair Burns; Members Azad, Brewster, Mathew, Surin, Zacarias, Acuna, and Burgess. No: Chair Hicks-Lee; Members Tewari, Jacobs-Reed, Edwards, Potter, and Prospect.

Member Tewari asked in what ways will people be recognized and suggested using a different way to honor the living. Member Azad suggested a photo or poster so it is easily removable. Member Brewster mentioned the idea of using plaques for everyone so they will all be on the same level.

On a motion by Member Tewari, seconded by Vice Chair Burns, to recommend to the City Commission to include recognition to those who are alive and have excelled in their field, passed. Yes: Chair Hicks-Lee; Vice Chair Burns; Members Tewari, Jacobs-Reed, Edwards, Potter, Surin, and Prospect. No: Members Azad, Brewster, Zacarias, Acuna, and Burgess. Member Mathew did not vote.

Chair Hicks-Lee said the recommendations and lists will be finalized at the next meeting. Liaison Shechter mentioned the annual report.

On a motion by Member Potter, seconded by Member Burgess, to approve the annual report Chair Hicks-Lee will deliver to the City Commission, passed unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hicks-Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadia Ally

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Board Secretary

Approved: 5/17/2022