

Committee on Community Diversity

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

5:00 P.M.

Municipal Government Complex – Administrative Conference Room

1. Call to Order

Committee Members Present: Chairman Terry Wright, Vice-Chairman Larry Hamilton, Bill Murphy, Gordon Wise, Helen Cuff and Roger Hartley

Absent: Judy Terry

Chairman Terry Wright called the meeting to order at 5:08 P.M.

2. Approval of Minutes from July 12, 2011 meeting

- a. Chairman Terry Wright presented the July 12, 2011 minutes for approval. Mr. Hartley asked for one correction in the minutes, stating on page two, last paragraph where it stated (Mr. Hartley stated he spoke with Dan French), this should read (Mr. Enderle stated he spoke with Dan French). Mr. Wright stated the correction would be made. On a motion from Mr. Wise, seconded by Mr. Hartley, the minutes were approved with the changes for the July 12, 2011 Community Diversity Committee. Mr. Murphy abstained from voting, due to this being his first meeting with the Committee as Interim City Manager. Motion carried.

3. New Business

- a. Mr. Wright asked if anyone had spoke with anyone in regards to the historical plaques, which at this time no one on the Committee had.

4. Old Business

- a. The Committee spoke about historical walks. Mr. Hartley reported that in the past with the “walks” you were asked to register or call if you were interested, but you did not get much response therefore you were never certain how many if any would show up for the walk. There is a map for the historical walk for our downtown area, re: Caldwell Street information. Terry thought the Committee could work to help revise the current map for historical locations in Piqua and Roger Hartley said he could get a copy and bring it to the next meeting. Bill Murphy stated he would speak with Chris Schmiesing, City Planner, about the historical plaques and how they came about with the information on them and will report back at the next meeting.

- b. Terry stated that he has not heard back from the YMCA on any appointment to the Committee.
- c. Mr. Hartley asked if there was any topic that the Diversity Committee could not be involved with to which Mr. Wright reported that the Committee focuses on all types of Diversity and it does not matter. Mr. Wise mentioned a list was comprised as far as projects and topics for discussion at the onset of the Committee being developed. The Committee worked on ideas and then the list of ideas/projects was presented to the Piqua City Commission for approval. Terry mentioned that the Committee should revisit and look at the list and asked that Debbie make copies of this for the next meeting.
- d. Bill Murphy asked when the Committee formed, how it was formed, and did they mirror this Committee after what another City was doing? Larry Hamilton explained how the Community Diversity was formed and he discussed the Ad Hoc Committee and how they came about with the Street Naming policy. Also, Larry spoke about the RIGHT Concept and the work they do with this organization. Bill mentioned he was familiar with similar “Street Naming” policies that he was involved with in Middletown.

It was further mentioned that having Community Diversity Committees in smaller communities might make more sense than having one in larger cities with much diversity. The reason for this was mentioned that it would be cause for citizens to be acceptable to diversity within their smaller community where diversity is not as prevalent.

Terry Wright mentioned that if they do the walking tour he could mention this to PPP, the Library and Historical Society and do it as a group function. It was mentioned that someone should speak with Jim Oda about historical markers and try and find out about our local individuals and companies that contributed in some way to diversity within our community so that their efforts could be recognized.

5. Other

- a. Larry Hamilton stated he would like to recognize and thank Mr. Fred Enderle for contribution to the Committee. On a motion from Larry Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Hartley, the Committee extended their sincere thank you to Mr. Enderle for his support of the Committee and his commitment to serving as well. The Committee asked that Debbie Stein send a letter to Mr. Enderle thanking him for his service.
- b. Committee Members asked for an update on the appointment of City Manager. Mr. Murphy stated they are currently doing the personality tests as well as the background tests. Terry Wright asked Mr. Murphy if he would be interested in serving as City Manager because he has heard from quite a few people that he would make a good City Manager. Mr. Murphy stated that he had applied for the position, but withdrew his name as a candidate. He stated that in reviewing what the City Manager’s position requires, he did feel he would do a good job with the

position, but further stated that his passion is in the Economic Development field.
Bill thanked the Committee for their kind comments.

6. Adjournment

Helen Cuff called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Hartley seconded the motion.
All approved. The meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6, 2011 beginning at 5:00 PM.

Minutes recorded by Chairman Terry Wright

Transcribed by D. Stein, Executive Assistant