

Committee on Community Diversity

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 11, 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, Helen Cuff, Judy Terry and Roger Hartley.

Excused: Bill Murphy

Chairman Terry Wright called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Chairman Terry Wright presented the September 13, 2011 minutes for approval. On a motion from Helen Cuff, seconded by Larry Hamilton, the minutes of the September 13, 2011 Community Diversity Committee were approved. Motion carried.

**3. New Business**

- a. **Review Diversity Committee Work Program (Consolidated Ideas List)**

The Committee started their meeting with the review of attached Exhibit “A.”

**#1-Update (Completed)**

Terry Wright gave an update on item number one in regards to the granddaughter of William McCulloch (Elizabeth Carver). Ms. Carver wanted to do a documentary on the life of Mr. McCulloch. Larry stated that project has been completed. A DVD has been made that documents his life and the history involved.

**#2-Update (Ongoing)**

Terry reported Andy Hite is in charge with the annual local Ohio History Day program. It was mentioned that students in our area need to become more involved with this initiative and it was mentioned that the schools need to find ways to get students interested in this again.

### **#3- Update (Completed)**

#### **#4- Update (Ongoing)**

It was reported that Roger and Larry met with the Springcreek Township and the County in regards to the Rossville Site. This will be an ongoing discussion.

#### **#5 – Update (Ongoing)**

Larry reported they have not worked on developing a list to expand and prioritize names that follow the RIGHT guidelines for the naming of City facilities. Larry reported there was a list of names that was developed by the AD Hoc Committee for the naming convention. It was asked if there is any building in the City that has a potential for a re-name or in the process of being named for facilities. It was mentioned there may be three schools in the future. Larry said he was not aware that the Board of Education actually adopted the RIGHT concept. Larry did approach the Board a couple years ago about the adoption of the RIGHT concept. Roger asked if the Committee on Community Diversity should make a presentation to the Board of Education prior to the naming of the three new schools. Judy thought that the naming of schools is the purview of the Board to decide upon. Judy stated the Board of Education might want to conduct an essay contest amongst children to name a facility or the Board might want to name a facility after someone who has been involved in education. Larry wasn't certain if this should just be the decision of the Board alone. Larry stated he was going to attend the next School Board Meeting for the passing of the School Levy, but at that time he stated he had not planned on mentioning the RIGHT concept. After the election, Larry stated he would address this issue with the School Board. Larry further stated that by adopting the RIGHT concept, this does not mean that you have to name a facility because of a particular group wanting you to name it what they want, but it would mean that at least you could have an open dialog and discuss various naming conventions.

#### **#6 – Update (Completed)**

This issue is in regards to the bullying issues. This Committee has discussed this issue in the past. Larry stated this might be outside of how much can this Committee. Judy stated the Committee could revisit this item in the future if an issue arose where the Committee could help schools, institutions, etc.

#### **#7 – Update (Completed)**

Terry mentioned this was an initiative to work with Edison Community College with their programs and their Diversity Committee and they never heard back from them. Edison Community College did attend one Community Diversity Meeting and spoke with the Committeem but there was no future collaboration between the two groups.

**#8 – Update (Ongoing)**

It was mentioned that the Committee worked with Karen Schultz on the review of a multicultural calendar. It was mentioned it was not just a local calendar of events, but a county and state calendar of events for multicultural events.

**#9 – Update (Ongoing)**

Roger asked if the Committee could find a link at the State, County and Federal level relating to issues of diversity and multiculturalism. If so they could have this link placed on the City’s website. The group decided this was something to research and try to locate such a link.

**#10 – Update (Ongoing)**

Larry mentioned that the Committee has not made this type of award yet. It was mentioned that possibly people outside of the Community Diversity Committee nominate individuals or groups for this type of award.

**#11 – Update (Ongoing)**

Larry mentioned that speakers could still be set-up to speak with the Committee or with groups of employees, etc. It was mentioned that the topic was discussed with Edison as well.

**#12 – Update (Ongoing)**

Roger asked if there was a list of organizations/non-profits whose slated purpose is to promote inclusion and foster matters of diversity. Larry stated he did not believe there was a list. Terry thought the Chamber may have such a list. Terry stated he would check to see if the Chamber has such a list.

**#13 – Update (Completed)**

It was reported the Chamber has a program for “job shadowing” which works very well. Judy stated this is a good-fit for the Chamber and Piqua City Schools.

**#14 – Update (Ongoing)**

It was mentioned that this is a fairly broad category and would be considered open-ended.

**#15 – Update (Ongoing)**

It was mentioned this should be an ongoing initiative

**#16 – Update (Ongoing)**

Gordon Wise mentioned that Bill Murphy would be a good candidate to help with this initiative. It was mentioned that he would be a great resource. The Committee was wondering if they could recruit Bill to help with this and they will discuss with Gary Huff when he comes on board.

**#17 – Update (Remove item)**

It was decided to remove item 17.

**#18 – Update – (Ongoing)**

Roger asked if there was a significant minority community in Piqua. It was mentioned that Piqua does not have geographical neighborhoods due to the population not being that large. Discussion took place about the Gates Brothers purchasing property in Rossville and the Committee also discussed the Historical Museum. It was mentioned if someone would be interested in talking to the Gates Brothers about the land and what they are using it for. Judy stated the Committee should not approach the Gates Brothers and this is not what the Committee is about.

**4. Old Business**

a. Update on Historical Map for Walks - Mr. Roger Hartley

Roger reported that he did attend the Miami County Historical Society meeting and he did welcome any member to attend the Piqua Committee Meeting on Community Diversity, but he did not get a response that anyone would attend.

Also, Larry will speak to Jim Oda about someone from the Piqua Historical Society attending a meeting in the near future.

**5. Adjournment**

Helen Cuff called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Hartley seconded the motion. All approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:01 P.M.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2011 beginning at 5:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Municipal Government Complex located at 201 W. Water Street.

Minutes recorded by Chairman Terry Wright

Transcribed by D. Stein, Executive Assistant