

Committee on Community Diversity

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

5:00 P.M.

Municipal Government Complex – Administrative Conference Room

**1. Call to Order**

Committee Members Present: Chair Terry Wright, Vice-Chairman Larry Hamilton, Gary Huff, Judy Terry, Roger Hartley and Gordon Wise.

Excused: Helen Cuff

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

**2. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Chairman Terry Wright presented the November 8, 2011 minutes for approval. On a motion from Roger Hartley, seconded by Gary Huff, the minutes of the November 8, 2011 Community Diversity Committee were approved. Motion carried.

**3. New Business**

Terry reported that both he and Roger Hartley's appointment to the Community Diversity Committee would expire on March 1, 2012. Applications were on hand for current members to reapply to the Committee if they chose. Terry further reported there were two additional vacancies and asked if members knew of anyone interested in serving on the Board. He reminded members that applications can be printed off of the city's website and asked for members to take applications if they are aware of someone interested.

Gary Huff reported a new process to apply on-line for Boards/Committees will take place in the near future which may speed up the process and make it more convenient for citizens to apply.

Terry Wright stated someone called him with a complaint stating they felt protocol was not followed with the naming of the Mote Park Shelter. Terry told the person calling that he had read the Community Diversity minutes for November and that the situation was in order and has been taken care of. Gary further reported the suggested name for the Mote

Park Shelter was taken to the Park Board for approval last week and they did approve the recommended name. The next step would be to go forward to City Commission.

#### 4. **Old Business**

- a. Review of Resolution No. R-110-11. This Resolution was reviewed at the last meeting and Larry reviewed the following:

**SEC.1:** The City shall adopt the following recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Community Diversity. **(c)** That in the sale of municipal property with facilities naming possibility, the purchaser shall be informed of City policy and naming alternatives as they relate to the recognition of diversity in the community.

Larry reported he spoke with the Board of Education about this Resolution in the past (2009) and shared information with the Committee. Larry stated he was not aware if the Board of Education adopted the same policy as the City did.

Judy stated as she read the Resolution, this Committee could make a recommendation and then the recommendation would be passed on to the School Board, but they would have the last say in the decision making. Larry stated he was uncertain about that, stating he understood this Committee would make recommendation to Piqua City Commission and that City Commission could/or should make that recommendation to the Piqua Board of Education to adopt Resolution R-110-07.

Judy asked why we were naming structures in Parks and questioned if it was an important thing for this Committee to do. Terry Wright asked if there were additional shelters in the Park and suggested it may be a good idea to have different names on shelters when making reservations with the Park Department. Judy further stated she did not feel that this Committee should go back and start naming existing shelters but to move forward with recommending a name to any new structures. Larry stated the issue at hand was “ownership identity” and anything that is publicly owned would fall under that ownership identity.

Judy gave the example of the Piqua Power Plant. She stated it is called and named the Piqua Power Plant. She asked if the new plant would then have to be named differently because it is a public building or can it stay as is. Judy wondered if the Committee is doing more than needs to be done in some instances. Larry stated that too many people are dismissive of opportunities on the part of the people to be inclusive within the process. Larry stated the City Commission in the past has been more influenced and more easily lobbied by people who have a great deal of influence in the City in terms of

naming streets and/or buildings. Larry stated in the past there were people that weren't given any consideration in terms of the process for naming our publicly owned properties.

Gary stated if there was a request to name a building/facility, that name would go before the Community Diversity Committee then to the appropriate Advisory Committee and then to Piqua City Commission.

Roger Hartley stated he would not have a problem with going back to rename facilities/buildings if the need arose.

Gary Huff then read a portion of Resolution No. R-110-07, Sec. 1 (B) a-d (attached hereto as Exhibit "A.")

Larry made a motion that it be the recommendation of the Diversity Committee, to the Piqua City Commission, to encourage the adoption of Resolution No. R-110-07 by the Piqua Board of Education before the transfer or sale of City property to the Piqua Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Gordie Wise. Gary Huff abstained. Motion passed.

## **5. Adjournment**

Gordie Wise called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Roger Hartley seconded the motion. All approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:06 P.M.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2012 beginning at 5:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Municipal Government Complex located at 201 W. Water Street.

Minutes recorded by Chair Terry Wright

Transcribed by D. Stein, Executive Assistant

Exhibit "A"

**RESOLUTION NO. R-110-07**

**A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING DIVERISTY  
IN THE CITY OF PIQUA**

WHEREAS, the residents of Piqua, Ohio have long recognized the vital importance of diversity in the historical character of this community and having developed a long-standing tradition in caring and compassion since the arrival of the Randolph freedmen; and

WHEREAS, the city of Piqua, acknowledges the need to take a leadership role in eliminating historical patterns of bias and discrimination and expand the future growth of our community in offering everyone the right to live in dignity, respect and honor; and

WHEREAS, the city of Piqua desires to work with individuals and community organizations seeking the empowerment of all communities and encouraging their greater municipal participation in the decision making process; and

WHEREAS, the city of Piqua will seek to expand ownership identity of municipal properties in the future to those individuals belonging to groups that have traditionally been denied consideration; and

WHEREAS, the City of Piqua will embrace the philosophy of recognizing individual greatness through promoting equality of opportunity and encourage other public as well as private institutions to follow the principle.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Piqua Commission, Miami County, Ohio the majority of all members elected thereto concurring that:

SEC 1: The City shall adopt the following recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Community Diversity:

- A. A standing Committee on Community Diversity, of seven to nine members, representing the diversity of the Piqua Community, shall be appointed to monitor and advise the City Commission of the status of attainment of goals related to recognizing diversity in the community, and to assist the City, citizens and other interested parties of potential policies, programs and /or actions for recognizing and promoting diversity in the community. The committee shall issue periodic reports to the City Commission, making recommendations as appropriate.
- B. The City Commission shall implement a policy for the naming of public streets and facilities that will encompass the following principles:
  - a. Streets or municipal facilities, or any portion thereof, may be named without regard to residency requirements or other such artificial barriers.

- b. Streets, or any portion thereof, may be dedicated in the honor of, or recognizing individuals by placement of signage or plaques in appropriate locations along the designated street.
- c. That in the sale of municipal property with facilities naming possibility, the purchaser shall be informed of City policy and naming alternatives as they relate to the recognition of diversity in the community.
- d. That in the annexation of land with development naming possibilities the petitioner shall be informed of City policy and naming alternatives as they relate to the recognition of diversity in the community.

C. The City of Piqua will lead an effort with local education institutions, local business and industry and other interested parties to develop mentoring and skill development programs aimed at reinforcing employability and financial literacy skills for success as outlined in the attached Exhibit A.

D. In order to measure the impact of programs to promote diversity in Piqua, the City will lead an effort in cooperation with Grow Piqua Now, the Chamber of Commerce and other interested parties to:

- a. Establish a baseline of data about employers in the following areas:
  - i. Percentage of African American employees
  - ii. Percentage of Hispanic American employees
  - iii. Percentage of Asian American employees
  - iv. Percentage of women employees
  - v. Percentage of women and minorities in management positions
- b. Establish a five-year target for diversity in the workforce to meet or exceed current Census data;
- c. Establish an Action Plan for achieving targets; and
- d. Monitor and report progress toward target achievement.

SEC 2. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after passage.

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 THOMAS D. HUDSON, MAYOR

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

BECKY COOL  
 CLERK OF COMMISSION