

MINUTES

MOUNTLAKE TERRACE DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMISSION MEETING

February 15, 2023
7:10 p.m.

Mountlake Terrace City Hall and
via Telephone/Teleconference

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chair William Paige
Commissioner Francisco
Commissioner Meier
Commissioner Richards

COMMISSIONER ABSENT

Vice Chair Mojumder
Commissioner Deen
Commissioner Doyle

MOTION

Commissioner Paige Excuse Vice-Chair Mojumder and Commissioners Deen and
Commissioner Meier Doyle
Motion carried 4-0

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Bernadette Taylor-Moses, Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Joki, City Clerk

Land and Labor Acknowledgements read into the record by Chair Paige. Chair Paige commented on February being Black History month and the continued relevance of the Land and Labor Acknowledgements as it relates to this month's observance.

MOTION

Commissioner Francisco Approve January 18 meeting minutes
Commissioner Richards
Motion carried 4-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Councilmember Murray was not present as she was in Olympia at the AWC City Action Days, but did send a message of sharing the Equity framework with the DEIC commission.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Proclamations for 2023 – Discussion regarding commissioners connecting with councilmembers to discuss potential for proclamations and action surrounding proclamations.
- Trespass Ordinance – A meeting is in the works with the City Attorney, Chief Caw, Chair Paige and Commissioners Deen and to discuss the DEIC recommendations regarding the Trespass ordinance.

PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

- Logo – The logo is now on the MLT website. Discussion about digital business cards via a QR code, which can have the logo and other information on it.
- Safe Space Letter – Commissioner Meier read the Safe Space Letter aloud to the commission. A discussion took place regarding the language to be changed and removed, asking city attorney if there's liability associated with the pledge, how the pledge should be accepted and displayed. At the next meeting, the commission will discuss how to roll it the Safe Space Letter program.

MOTION

Commissioner Meier Accept the Safe Space Letter as amended (see attached)
Commissioner Richards

Motion carried 4-0

- Welcome Signage – Discussion on long-standing request for welcome signage in City Hall. The Arts Advisory Commission supports the DEIC leading the welcome sign project for the city. Chair Paige will recommend to the City on behalf of the commission to have welcome signs in City Hall, the Recreation Pavilion, and the police station.

- Land Acknowledgement – This is on hold as the discussion is to include Councilmember Murray.

NEW BUSINESS

- Stipend Reimbursement – Chair Paige relayed information from Interim City Manager Neiditz regarding other cities and stipends. The commission discussed the pros and cons of having a stipend for commissioners and further discussion will be continued.
- DEI Suggestions –
 - The Step-Up Conference – the city disseminated information out about the conference. The conference will be held via Zoom.
 - Get more minority vendors to participate in Tour de Terrace.
 - Include Mountlake Terrace High School students in DEI activities since many have shown interest, have more student outreach.
- Other Topics –
 - Participating on the pro and con committees for the Voter’s Pamphlets the South County Fire annexation.

DEI WINS

- A request for proposals has been posted for a DEIC facilitator, and sent out to organizations who will post it, too.
- An Event Coordinator was recently hired for the City who can help with DEI events.

COMMISSIONERS CORNER

- Commissioner Meier shared issues regarding people with disabilities.
- Commissioner Francisco attended the Black Lives Matters event at the library and was one of the readers.
- Chair Paige attended the Black Lives Matters event at the library and was one of the readers.
- Chair Paige interviewed for the vacant councilmember position and was able to speak on issues regarding the city.

MOTION

Commissioner Meier Adjourn the meeting
Commissioner Richards

Motion carried 5-0

Meeting adjourned 8: 47 p.m.

Minutes subject to approval at March 15, 2023 meeting.

DRAFT

By displaying this sticker/sign, you are pledging your support for the statement below.

Pledge to Support Social Justice Presented by the City of Mountlake Terrace Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission

"Mountlake Terrace recognizes the importance of equality and freedom; and that no person should be denied equal protection of the laws; nor shall any person be denied the enjoyment of their civil rights or be discriminated against because of their actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, marital status, physical or mental disability, family status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression;"

As a Mountlake Terrace business owner or manager, I pledge that I will apply these principles of nondiscrimination in whom I hire as employees, how I manage my business, and how I welcome and treat business patrons.

BIPOC throughout the history of our nation. I hope that this pledge counteracts instances of systemic injustice, and I recognize that BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, and other oppressed peoples are all disproportionately affected by these injustices. I pledge my support for government policies that will combat racism and discrimination in all forms. As a Mountlake Terrace business owner or manager, I support the First Amendment right to peacefully protest to combat racism.

Sticker/Sign Verbiage:

This business pledges to strive to create a safe space for BIPOC, LGBTQ+ and other historically marginalized communities through our support of the MLT DEIC Safe Spaces Pledge.