

Committee on Community Diversity  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, August 26, 2008  
5:00 PM  
Administrative Conference Room  
Municipal Government Center

Committee Members:

<u>Exc.</u> Helen Cuff	<u>  x</u> Nicole K. Burton
<u>  x</u> Terry Wright	<u>  x</u> Gordon Wise
<u>  x</u> Larry Hamilton	<u>  x</u> Bill Vogt
<u>  x</u> Fred Enderle	

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Terry Wright, Chairman for the Committee called the meeting to order at 5:10 P.M. He noted that Helen Cuff was unable to attend due to illness. Also noted, Kris Lee, an original member to the Ad Hoc Committee for Community Diversity, was in attendance. Jennifer Schaeffer of the Piqua Daily Call was also in attendance.

**2. Minutes**

The minutes from the July 29, 2008 Committee on Community Diversity meeting were reviewed. The Committee recommended inserting Nicole K. Burton as secretary of the Committee and removing Fred Enderle. The minutes were approved on a motion from Bill Vogt, with a second by Larry Hamilton. Motion carried.

**3. Review of Community Diversity Charge Statement**

The review of the Community Diversity Charge Statement had been tabled at the July 29, 2008 meeting for further research in regards to the meaning of diversity as it pertains to this committee and their charge. The review was brought back to the table for discussion at this meeting.

Fred Enderle stated that he had asked Bill Lutz, Community Development Manager for the City of Piqua for input on the meaning of diversity. Kris Lee provided the Committee with information in regards to percentages within the city and surrounding areas in regards to Community Diversity. It was mentioned that Kris did this thesis on this topic in graduate school.

Several different approaches were voiced such as: citizens need to be encouraged to be involved and that religious and minority groups should not be the main focus of involvement.

Fred Enderle shared that the groundwork will begin with creating interest in the community and gaining volunteers. He also mentioned that the idea of a Citywide

Diversity Day has been discussed. This day could include bringing in guest speakers with various topics at different locations throughout the city.

**4. Review Glossary Terms for Meaning of Diversity**

Eight pages of information relating to the term/word “*diversity*” were supplied by the City Manager’s office. After reviewing the terminology and discussion to find the right meaning, it was suggested to combine a few definitions to better suit the committees as follows:

*The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means understanding that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual differences. Practicing mutual respect for qualities and experiences that are different from our own. Understanding that diversity includes not only ways of being, but also ways of **thinking and of knowing**. Recognizing that personal, cultural and institutionalized discrimination creates and sustains privileges for some while creating and sustaining disadvantages for others. Building alliances across differences so that we can work together to eradicate all forms of discrimination.*

**5. Other:**

- a. Fred assured the committee, that the minutes would be forwarded via email prior to the meetings as well as any additional correspondences.
- b. Terry Wright and Larry Hamilton would like to go before the Piqua City Commission to appeal for two more seats on this Committee. Fred Enderle suggested having names of potential members to go along with the request would be better received and should not be a problem.
- c. Fred Enderle suggested that a sub-committee could be formed to help support the original committee. A few names were brought forth, but before the Committee approaches the Commission they will first assure interested parties involvement.
- d. Larry Hamilton made a motion to add two more seats to the Committee; his motion was seconded by Terry Wright. Motion carried.

**6. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, September 30, 2008 beginning at 5:00 P.M. in the City Administrative Conference Room located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

**7. Adjourn**

A Motion was made by Bill Vogt, seconded by Larry Hamilton and carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole K. Burton  
Committee on Community Diversity, Secretary