



# Civic Engagement Commission Meeting Notes

6/1/2022

**Attendees:** Mattye Sisk, Ama (Amanda) Hapke, Kelli Kelly, Sean Moore, Alison Combs, Scott Campbell, Jessica Prosser, David Corbari

**Meeting Purpose and Objectives:** Provide recommendations to Council and City management regarding the development and implementation of civic engagement programs, which may include recommendations regarding best practices for outreach and education. Recommend to Council new initiatives to support and partner with community-based organizations, institutions and civic leaders in the public and private sectors in their civic engagement efforts. Coordinate with Council Members, community boards, and other City agencies in the development and implementation of civic engagement programs. Work with City staff and Council to plan and implement a Civic Engagement Academy.

## Discussion Topics:

### 1. Civic Engagement Academy Review

- a. Jessica suggests that during a future meeting the commission run through presentations of the academy and discuss content that is presented. Give suggestions on how to disseminate the academy in the right way.
- b. Kelli agrees. David agrees and suggest looking at the curriculum on different time frames or levels of event engagement. Ama stated the previous academy time frames were not accessible to everyone.
- c. Ama asks if they can have access to the presentations to make sure all topics are covered as previously the academy had different topics presented.
- d. Ama requests going through the slideshow next meeting. The commissioners agree to next meeting having slideshows and subject matter experts there.
- e. Sean states he applied for the academy and has not heard back from his application. Need to make the whole process user friendly
- f. Jessica states that the academy misses how to encourage the public to engage. Kelli suggests making it more engaging by have brief survey on why the citizen came and what issue or concern are they at the academy for. The survey can empower people on how to approach the learning and tune in presenters to what the academy attendees are wanting to learn about. Not tailored made but highlight the points the attendees want based on the survey.
- g. Sean states that to be impactful the city needs to do a better job of promoting and creating a partnership with youth. Sean suggests having youth driven organizations bring youth in to help with creating the

academy. Jessica states that there is three youth led commissions. Could pull a youth from each commission to bring on board. David recommends having a component where it works with the schools to give youth credit or create a curriculum that can be presented to schools. Sean suggests building the infrastructure where youth are at the table to build the foundation of the academy and civic engagement commission.

- h. Jessica recommends bringing older adults into the commission. David explains that reaching out to assisted living facilities on where the commission meets to bring people into the civic engagement commission would be helpful.
- i. Everyone agrees in having a fall academy. Need to review information, discuss it with youth in July or August. Content is mostly done but need to discuss it and improve it. Have youth come in July to discuss and go over information.

## 2. Group Discussion:

- a. Sean explains that the civic engagement is not community engagement. Potentially changing the name is suggested by Sean. Sean states that community engagement comes prior to civic engagement. Sean suggests adding community engagement into the name civic engagement name. Potential new title be civic community engagement.
- b. Kelli explains that she is not personally aware of what the objects are or what the civic engagement is about. What is the strategy, is there objective, what is the job, what is the goal. Kelli suggests having guideposts to have clarity on the vision and what are trying to collectively achieve. Find out what people's passion points are and what interests are currently being advocated by the commission. Engage other groups. Ama suggests the bylaws creation will give clarity on the vision and objective. Create action items based on by laws. David suggests getting the bylaws in place will make it the commission most effective. Defines purpose, setting by laws and agendas and getting direction helps to entrench engagement with community.
- c. Scott gives the update that the civic Engagement can meet if it is not involving discussing commission items. Commissioners can meet with public. Jessica explains that if the commission is having a mid-week meeting the city can support the meeting to help catalog the progression of the commission.
- d. Scott informs the commission that the City Clerk will need to know who will be voted as the Chair.
- e. Scott gives the update that Maria is still working on reference materials but will put in Microsoft Teams folder once it is available.
- f. David suggests on establishing the mission of the commission. Discussion happens around the mission sentence, objectives, values, vision, activities, and what is civic/community engagement. David spearheaded the documentation of the establishment of this information and added it to the commissioners Microsoft Teams so all commissioners can work on the document at later dates. Currently the possible mission statement is discussed as: Ensure that every community member regardless of their individual resources, identities, and backgrounds is informed, empowered and capable of

accessing/navigating City assets and community resources to resolve issues and bring their community closer to their ideal.

- g. Sean asks if having identification or name tag or card be possible for Civic Engagement Commission. Scott says it is possible and the city will try to provide the information.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, July 6, 2022