



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMISSION (DEI)
January 11, 2022 Regular Meeting
(3:00 to 4:30 p.m.) Remote Meeting via Zoom & Council Conference Room

Members Present: Tylene Carnell, Daniel Amos, Sara Omrani, Kandee Cleary, and Nancy Goodloe (chair)

Members Absent: Landis Hanson

Also present: Nicole Klauss, Public Information Officer (Recording Secretary); Brad Case, Parks and Recreation Director; Laci Harrison, Parks & Recreation Commission Chair and applicant; Mayra Colazo, applicant; Taurino Lozano, applicant; and 4 members of the public.

1. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Nancy Goodloe called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Commission members introduced themselves.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 14, 2021 MEETING

Motion: Commissioner Kandee Cleary moved to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2021 DEI Commission Meeting, and Commissioner Daniel Amos seconded. There was no discussion. The Commission voted 4-0 in favor of the motion; motion passed.

3. INTRODUCTION OF APPLICANTS

Chair Goodloe asked the DEI Commission applicants to introduce themselves. Taurino Lozano, Mayra Colazo, and Laci Harrison introduced themselves, and Chair Goodloe read an introduction from Alex Mandujano that was submitted via email.

4. UNITY PARK BRIEFING

Parks and Recreation Director Brad Case provided an update on Unity Park including the history of the property, the concept plans, and the timeline for development.

Commissioner Amos asked about artwork in the park. Case said as we move forward with the next planning phase, art will be at the forefront of that discussion. Case said there will be stakeholder groups invited to the table when we get to that point.

Mayra Colazo asked about how many ADA parking spots are available around the upcoming park. She also has been talking with Dan Witkowski, from Central Washington Disability Resources and the Parks and Recreation Commission, about accessibility within the park and wants to make sure it represents everybody and is accessible to those in wheelchairs and with low mobility. Case said the plan with the park is to keep it flat surfacing and the details will be worked out in the next phase, including the concerns Colazo referenced.

Commissioner Cleary asked about the bull in the park now. Case said the bull will remain in the park although its location could be moved within the park.

Theresa Plue asked about parking and mentioned her concern for some of the downtown businesses that serve elderly people, and how they would remain accessible. Case said the City Council is considering the Pearl Street Promenade, evaluating the feasibility of closing Pearl Street between Fourth and Fifth Ave to traffic either temporary, seasonal, or permanent. With



respect to the loss of the 25 stalls of parking at Unity Park, Case said the City will need to look for alternatives in our downtown or adjacent to the downtown that could be used for parking.

Commissioner Sara Omrani thanked Colazo for contributing because accessibility and access is important.

Case said the Council has allocated some funds out of the COVID relief money, so we have \$1.8 million for development of the park and potentially any work done on Pearl Street. Landscape Architect Walker Macy should be on board in the next month, and the window of opportunity for construction is fall 2022 with the latest hopefully spring 2023.

Theresa Plue asked if there was a possibility for a farther parking area to have a shuttle for the elderly.

Laci Harrison said there's an additional ADA parking space next to Pretty Fair Beer on Fifth Avenue, so there is an ADA space within one block of the park, and that none of the parking being removed from the park is ADA parking.

5. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

Chair Goodloe recapped how the commission arrived at the current version of the statement which included feedback from the Aronica family. Goodloe said she doesn't think we should put strings on use of the statement — anyone who lives in the community and wants to recognize the land we live on, staff can use it, and the City Council can decide how they would like to use it.

Commissioner Tylen Carnell said we had good conversations around the topic at the last meeting and the user should have a tie to why it is they're using it, to whatever event it is they're having. As far as the City goes it should be used anytime there is a groundbreaking or a change to the land. Carnell said she agrees with leaving it to the person or organization using it and the onus is on them to tie it to what they are doing. Goodloe said the commission could work with the City Manager to decide how staff uses it, and it's a matter of educating people. Goodloe said Carnell and Klauss could give some examples of how it could be used in the staff report.

Klauss said this will be on the Feb. 22 City Council agenda. Klauss will provide a staff report and Carnell will read her document at the meeting, which will be attached to the staff report as a memo. The land acknowledgement subcommittee will work on supplemental materials for the agenda report. Klauss, Amos, Carnell and Omrani will get together to chat further about examples.

Motion: The commission made a motion to approve presenting the below version of the land acknowledgement statement to the Ellensburg City Council for consideration of adoption, for their use and the City's use as a way to acknowledge the land that we live on.

Commissioner Cleary made the motion. Commissioner Amos seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved 4-0.



Land Acknowledgement Statement:

"The City of Ellensburg is located on the historic home of the K'ti'tas and Pshwánapam bands of Indigenous people. Today, these bands are part of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, a federally-recognized Native Nation constituted under the Treaty with the Yakamas of 1855. The Indigenous stewards of this land practiced a subsistence lifestyle through fishing, hunting, and gathering since time immemorial and remain committed stewards of this land, cherishing it, protecting it and using it, as instructed by their elders through generations; actively practicing the traditions and culture as neighbors in the Ellensburg community."

6. REVIEW FEBRUARY PROCLAMATION

The Commission reviewed the draft of the Black History Month proclamation and suggested local names that could be added. Commission members are reaching out to the names suggested to see if they would be willing to be added, and will give Chair Goodloe an update. The proclamation will be read at the February 7 City Council meeting.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Carnell said she is working to set up a listening tour with the LatinX community. Commissioner Amos said he is working to set up a listening tour with the Latter-day Saints community.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

N/A

9. STAFF REPORT

Klauss provided the staff report:

- Washington Outdoor School: Two commission members indicated they wanted to participate and help the Washington Outdoor School put up MLK Day signs on January 17.
- Asked for ideas for other speakers. Goodloe suggested the EDA director for February and an update from CWU (Kandee Cleary) for March.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Goodloe called for public comment. Mayra Colazo thanked the commission for their work and mentioned she was excited to be able to apply to the commission again.

The meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Nicole Klauss
Recording Secretary

Drafted: 1/12/22

Approved: 2/8/22