Council Meeting Retreat Minutes
Monday, March 13, 2023

Present:
- Kevin Armstrong
- Angie Auldrige
- Richard Bauernschub
- Kalani Brown
- Meeka Caldwell
- Laura – Sun Cefaratti
- Palmos Chavez-Luna
- Staci Forrest
- Harold Gomes
- Elizabeth Hall
- Kay Han
- Kathy Hargett
- Jarred Jones
- Meghan Jones
- Dr. Sohail Qarni
- Dee Sapp
- Bernard Simons
- Teri Sparks
- Maureen van Stone
- Kate Szymanski

Absent:
- Damon Briggs
- Carmen Brown
- Scott Dennis
- Amanda Distefano
- Kareena Jones
- Tiffany Joseph
- Liz Weintraub
- Russell Young

Staff:
- Anastasia Collins
- Stephanie Dolamore
- Rachel London
- Shawan Pearson
- Christy Russell

Guest:
- Jessica Lawmaster
- Adana Protonentis
The meeting was called to order at 3:33 p.m. by Dee Sapp, Council Chairperson.

**Welcome and Introductions – Dee Sapp**
- Dee Sapp welcomed everyone to the Council meeting.

**Public Comments**
- No public comments

**Approval of Minutes – Dee Sapp**
- M/S/P to approve the December 8, 2022 minutes.

**Chair Report – Dee Sapp**
- The Chair reviewed the meeting packet process. Dee informed the Council members that they will receive a survey by email about the use of meeting packets.

- Future Council meetings will be in-person if COVID allows. The chair and executive director will work with the Executive Committee prior to each Council meeting to decide if the meeting will be in-person or by Zoom.

**Executive Director Report – Rachel London**
- The Council received the remaining FFY2023 at the end of February for a total of $1,258,085. This was $51,550.00 more than FFY2022.

- MVA continues to work with the consultant to translate the driver’s manual and test materials into plain language. It is progressing well.

- Legislation is moving that makes the Council an independent state agency. The bill has passed the Senate and the Committee of the House. If passed, it is effective July 1. While important, it does not change any of the operations of the Council.

**Diversity Work Team Update – Kay Hahn**
- The Diversity Work Team is collaborating with Kindred Consulting to develop the diversity statement, the Council’s self-assessment survey, and outline the specific terms for the RFP.

- Kindred Consulting will routinely meet with the Diversity Work Team to develop the RFP.
Kindred Consulting Presentation – Adana Protonentis and Jessica Lawnmaster

- Adana and Jessica provided an overview of what is needed to develop a successful RFP about Cultural Brokering package. The following recommendations were provided:
  - The RFP must align with values and goals of the Council.
  - Develop terms that will be most useful to define Cultural Brokerage P.
  - In addition, Kindred Consulting is working with the Diversity Work Team to create a diversity statement and a self-assessment tool to measure how well the Council responds to the cultural and languages needs of diverse communities.

1st Quarter FFY 2023 Budget Report – Christy Russell
- Quarterly budget reviewed. No questions, comments, or concerns.

Legislative Update and DD Day – Rachel London
- Overall DD Day was successful. Several Council members shared their experience. Maureen van Stone stated, the new Administration gave DD Day new energy with their presentation, participation, and engagement.
  - The General Assembly is finalizing the State budget. The legislative session ends April 10.

Priority Legislation
- Governor priority to move minimum wage to $15.00 per hour.
- 76 bills are being actively working on through written and/or oral testimony, meetings, education, and other advocacy and education.
  - Governor created a Service Year program established an entire new Cabinet which will assist students graduating high school with a two-year option to join an apprenticeship and receive a stipend. The Council worked with the Administration to make sure students who leave school with a certificate instead of a diploma are included.

Meeting Adjourn @ 5:45 p.m.