



COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION AGENDA
December 6, 2018 at 4 p.m.
City Hall, 222 Meigs Street

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Charlene Adams, Valerie Cruse, Wendy Dobyms, Anthony Harris, Daryl Murphy, Taylor Sutphen & Jennifer Washington

CURRENT BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

- September 13, 2018

Welcoming Sandusky Task Force

Soni Vyas-Weit The Center for Peace Through Understanding

Update on Neighborhood Initiative

Talon Flohr - Neighborhood Initiative Coordinator

Open Discussion

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING(S)

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m., after the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Wendy Dobyons, Anthony Harris, Taylor Sutphen, Jennifer Washington and Daryl Murphy

Members Absent: Charlene Adams

Ex-Officio members present: John Orzech- Police Chief, Talon Flohr - Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator

Staff Present: Kelly Kresser, Clerk

CURRENT BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion of Jennifer Washington and second of Taylor Sutphen, the members voted to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2018, meeting after a formal reading. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

Staff Remarks

New Hires/Introductions

John Orzech **introduced two newer Police Officers** who started working for the City of Sandusky during the past two years and each provided a brief introduction: Officer Lucas Rospert and Officer Ronta Hill-Morton. Daryl Murphy told both Officers if they follow the Chief's lead, they will do well as Chief Orzech is fair and above board.

Neighborhood Initiative Update

Talon Flohr provided a recap for the end of Year One of Sandusky's Neighborhood Initiative. Projects completed include:

- *First through Fifth Street: Cleveland Road Parklet improvements near completion;*
- *Cove District: artwork installation (giant fish hook);*
- *South of Kilbourne Plat: road improvements, community garden and planters on Hancock Street;*
- *Garden District: Central Park improvements near completion;*
- *South Side: mobile splash pad completed at Churchwell Park;*
- *West End: Venice Road connector improvements completed.*

Talon Flohr said Year Two of the Neighborhood Initiative will involve less projects but of a larger scale. Jaycee Park will be a big focus in Year Two.

Chairman Harris inquired about the **former Herman's property on Cleveland Road** and Chief Orzech indicated Cedar Point acquired these parcels and they may be relocating their Human Resources offices to this location. Chairman Harris inquired about the **existing City Hall building** and asked what will happen with these parcels once all offices are relocated; he also asked about the former American Crayon property where there appear to be squatters. Chief Orzech said a determination has not been made for the Meigs Street parcel and stated the city owns the Hayes Avenue site running east on Rockwell Street to near mid-block. The entrance to the new Justice Center will be on Rockwell Street.

Open Discussion

Chairman Harris asked about **speed limit and/or children at play signs on Springdale and Avondale Streets** because people speed through this area. Chief Orzech indicated they can patrol this area and check into putting the speed trailer out. Wendy Dobyms asked about leaning utility poles specific to their safety and noted there is one at the end of Carr and Monroe Streets; Chief Orzech said he can report this to Ohio Edison. Chairman Harris asked about the **development on First Street at the end of Farwell Street** and Talon Flohr said he believes Bob Waldock purchased this property for development. Chairman Harris asked about the new building to be constructed at the Sports Force Park and if it is all within the city's jurisdiction. Chief Orzech said ninety percent of this property is located within the city's corporate limits. Talon Flohr provided an overall recap of The Landing project and its connectivity to the west end of town and all areas in between.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Harris asked if anyone had spoken with Shameka Owens-Moore about issues she raised at a recent meeting as he has called her and called city staff but has had no further calls from either. There has been no effort to reach out to the CRC membership since the March meeting so it is assumed this issue has been remedied.

Jennifer Washington asked about the **vacancy on the CRC** due to the resignation of Dominic Wells; she also inquired about members who do not attend and if there is a mechanism to replace them. Kelly Kresser stated the vacancy created by Dominic Wells will be filled by the City Commissioners and she will remind them of this as well as issues with members who do not attend meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 6 at 4 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Daryl Murphy and second of Jennifer Washington, the members voted to adjourn at 4:55 p.m. Chairperson Harris declared the motion passed.

Attest: Kelly Kresser, Clerk

Date: ____/____/____

Anthony Harris, Chairperson

Date: ____/____/____

DRAFT

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SANDUSKY AS A WELCOMING AND SAFE COMMUNITY FOR IMMIGRANTS; AND DECLARING THAT THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE IMMEDIATE EFFECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 14 OF THE CITY CHARTER.

WHEREAS, the City of Sandusky strives to be a welcoming, safe, and inclusive community for all residents, including immigrants, refugees, and people from diverse races, ethnic backgrounds, cultures and religions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sandusky rejects marginalization of diverse community members through discrimination, hate, and bias; and

WHEREAS, given current demographic trends, in order to secure the future vitality of the City, it is imperative that the City develop ways to attract and retain a diverse population and to leverage this diversity in building a welcoming, safe, and inclusive community for all; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sandusky wishes to enable economic development, facilitate the integration of immigrant populations into Sandusky, retain talent, attract investment, educate and inform the existing community about newer immigrant neighbors, and support the immigrant community in reaching its full potential; and

WHEREAS, immigrants add civic, cultural, and economic value to their new home communities, start businesses, create jobs, complement the skills of the U.S. workforce, produce greater demand for existing businesses and services, and help revitalize declining neighborhoods.

WHEREAS, this Resolution should be passed as an emergency measure under suspension of the rules in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter in order to make this proclamation at the earliest opportunity as the 2018 National Welcome Week was recently celebrated September 14-23, 2018; and

WHEREAS, in that it is deemed necessary in order to provide for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health, and safety of the City of Sandusky, Ohio, and its citizens, and to provide for the efficient daily operation of the Municipal Departments of the City of Sandusky, Ohio, the City Commission of the City of Sandusky, Ohio, finds that an emergency exists regarding the aforesaid, and that it is advisable that this **Resolution** be declared an emergency measure which will take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter; and NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SANDUSKY, OHIO, THAT:

Section 1: This City Commission declares the City of Sandusky to be a welcoming and safe community for immigrants, and condemns any

discrimination, harassment, or unjust treatment of immigrant residents in Sandusky.

Section 2: This City Commission authorizes and directs the City Manager to promote Sandusky as a welcoming and safe community for immigrants and invite all voices and perspectives to participate including, but not limited to, those from economic development, government, the justice system, education, social and health services, cultural groups, and the arts.

Section 3: This City Commission authorizes and directs the City Manager to communicate messages of unity and shared values, and sustain efforts through policies and practices for the purpose of talent attraction, retention, and immigrant integration to enhance social and economic opportunities for all.

Section 4: This City Commission recognizes that the Welcome Sandusky initiative is part of a broader national movement, the Welcoming Cities and Counties program of Welcoming America, which encourages communities throughout Ohio and the United States to embrace diversity, making the most of their human resources socially and economically and reduce barriers for all people of diverse backgrounds.

Section 5. If any section, phrase, sentence, or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

Section 6. This City Commission finds and determines that all formal actions of this City Commission concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this City Commission and that all deliberations of this City Commission and of any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

Section 7. That for the reasons set forth in the preamble hereto, this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure which shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter after its

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adoption and due authentication by the President and the Clerk of the City Commission of the City of Sandusky, Ohio.

DENNIS E. MURRAY, JR.
PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION

ATTEST:

KELLY L. KRESSER
CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION

Passed: September 24, 2018