

MINUTES
THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES
EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMISSION
THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024, 5:00 PM
2 EAST MAIN STREET
DENS A & B, SECOND FLOOR

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Sue Sanders called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

Roll Call

Present: Sue Sanders, Mary Kruse, Cris Anderson, Lisa Macaione, Samantha Newman (via phone)

Absent: Trudy Nichols, Erica Johnson, Michael Castro

Others present: Lisa Stricker, Jenn McMahon

2. Approval of the March 28, 2024, Equity & Inclusion Meeting Minutes

Motion by Macaione, second by Kruse to approve the March 28, 2024, meeting minutes.

Voice Vote: Ayes: Kruse, Anderson, Macaione, Newman, Sanders. Nays: None. Absent: Nichols, Johnson, Castro. **Motion Carried.**

3. City Cultural Recognition Recommendations

Newman explained that she and Kruse would like to see the following to recognize Pride month in June:

- Raise the Pride flag at the Municipal Building.
- Edit the previous proclamation for this year and have it read by the Mayor at the May 20 City Council Meeting.
- Post the proclamation and decorate the Main Street window at the Municipal Building.
- Contact press and publish efforts on social media channels.

Motion by Macaione, second by Kruse to recommend that the City do a proclamation for Pride month and a ceremony to raise the Pride flag.

Voice Vote: Ayes: Kruse, Anderson, Macaione, Newman, Sanders. Nays: None. Absent: Nichols, Johnson, Castro. **Motion Carried.**

4. 2024-2025 Action Steps

The following sub-committee groups gave updates on their action steps:

- LGBTQIA+: Provide resources to local and national groups on the City website.
- Immigrant Population: Have roundtable discussions with businesses, have Literacy Volunteer of America speak, and bring in organizations to assist immigrants in becoming citizens.
- Mental Health: Sanders gave a brief explanation about the 708 Mental Health Board and how they distribute grants to local organizations. It was suggested that links and information to these groups be available on the City website

5. Additional Items

Motion by Kruse, second by Anderson for the City to do a proclamation for June 19 to be posted on City website and all social media.

Voice Vote: Ayes: Kruse, Anderson, Macaione, Newman, Sanders. Nays: None. Absent: Nichols, Johnson, Castro. **Motion Carried.**

Macaione stated she would like to be a on a future sub-committee to recognize various cultural and religious holidays, awareness and heritage months. The commission also discussed bringing in religious leaders for informational purposes.

Newman stated she would like to do a meet and greet or an open house to let the public know what the commission is doing to serve the community.

The group discussed the current vacancy on the commission. Lisa Stricker stated she would follow-up with this.

6. Public Comments – None

7. Adjournment

Motion by Anderson, second by Macaione to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 pm.

Voice Vote: Ayes: Kruse, Anderson, Macaione, Newman, Sanders. Nays: None. Absent: Nichols, Johnson, Castro. **Motion Carried.**

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