



Leesburg Diversity Commission Regular Meeting

Wednesday, June 12, 2024 • 7:00 p.m.
Lower-Level Conference Room 1
Leesburg Town Hall • 25 West Market Street

Meeting Agenda

- Call to Order
- Approval of Electronic Participation (if necessary)
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - Minutes of May 8, 2024 Meeting
- Petitioners
- Commissioner Comments
- Council Member Comments
- Staff Reports
 - Public Information Office
 - Police Department
- Chair Comments
- New Business
 - Fiesta Latina Update with Officer Michael Drogin
 - Planning for Snack Drive with Fueled
 - Planning for Employment Fair
- Adjournment

Leesburg Diversity Commission
May 8, 2024
Regular Meeting Minutes

Location: Leesburg Town Hall, Lower-Level Conference Room 1

Commissioners Present: Devon Carter
Enrique Gonzalez
Melissa Simonetta
Lisa Marie Horvatinovich
Edgard Segura
Vanessa Borg
Ana Quijano (electronically)

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present: Public Information Officer Kara Rodriguez, Staff Liaison
Sgt. Wael Abilmona, Leesburg Police Department

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Approval of Electronic Participation

- On a motion by Commissioner Borg, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Quijano was approved to participate in the meeting electronically. Commissioner Quijano could not attend the meeting in person due to travel.

Approval of Agenda

- Agenda was approved as presented, on a motion by Commissioner Borg, seconded by Commissioner Horvatinovich.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the April 10, 2024, regular meeting were approved as presented, on a motion by Commissioner Horvatinovich, seconded by Commissioner Simonetta.

Commissioner Comments

- **Commissioner Borg** noted that Equality Loudoun was working with the Town on a Pride Month kick-off event on the Town Green during June's First Friday.

Staff Report

- Ms. Rodriguez gave a brief update on progress with adding the Bablic language translation plug-in to the Town website. She noted the company was in Israel and was

reporting lengthy delays in customer response due to the present conflict. She promised further updates in June.

Old Business

- **Boards and Commissions Networking Event (debrief):** Commissioners who attended the April 29 event said they enjoyed themselves and offered Commissioner Gonzalez kudos on his presentation. There was discussion about term limits for Commission chairs and the overall format of the event.
- **Loudoun Latino Festival (debrief): Commissioner Gonzalez** said attendance at the event was not as high as the previous year's due to the threat of rain, but the Diversity Commission table stayed busy thanks to the free face painting. He noted Commissioner Segura was in attendance for the first part of the event.

New Business

- **Employment Fair:** Commissioners discussed planning for the annual Employment Fair. Ms. Rodriguez shared dates that the lower-level banquet hall at Ida Lee Park Recreation Center is available. Saturday, September 21, was settled on as the ideal date of choice, with Saturday, October 19, as a back-up option. There was also discussion about whether outreach efforts about the job fair should shift away from mailed postcards to online ads. Ms. Rodriguez noted the success of the recent Town Open House in utilizing Facebook ads and a Facebook event.
- **Planning for 2024 Initiatives:** Commissioners exchanged ideas about different initiatives to pursue in 2024 based on previously set goals at the December 2023 meeting. Commissioners supported again holding a snack donation drive to benefit Fueled (formerly Backpack Coalition). Further planning and discussion about this initiative is anticipated for the June meeting, with the snack drive to occur during the summer months. Other ideas discussed were partnering with the Economic Development Commission on business outreach particularly to minority communities; participating in First Friday and Town-sponsored events; and hosting some type of multicultural event, including dancing.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 12, at 7 p.m.