

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL  
DIVERSITY COALITION COMMITTEE  
January 12, 2022  
6:00 P.M.**

A Regular Meeting of the Diversity Coalition Committee (DCC) was held via video/teleconference on January 12, 2022, pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 54953 (as amended by AB 361).

**CALL TO ORDER**

Facilitator Abdelnour called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Samona Caldwell  
Pam Dutch Hughes  
Kia Gaines  
Harshan Jeyakumar  
Lupe Reyes  
Todd Sahara  
Jon-Stephen Scott  
Kenyetta Suggars  
Christopher Wilson  
Lisa Wong

Not Present: Harvey Jones  
Diana Phillips

Facilitator: Fred Abdelnour

There was 0 member of the public in attendance.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

There was no public business from the floor.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a. Community Survey Update

The Facilitator informed the DCC Members that True North Research, Inc. provided a calendar of expected dates for the survey, which has been shared with all Members. The survey consultant delivered the surveys to the post office on Monday, January 10, 2022.

DCC Member Diana Phillips joined the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

A DCC Member asked if we would be receiving another update on the survey at the January 26, 2022 meeting.

A DCC Member asked when the interim Police Chief is scheduled to present at a DCC Meeting.

Facilitator reported that a request has been submitted for participation in the January 26, 2022 meeting.

A DCC Member shared that she received the survey. It was in four languages. The interesting thing is that her husband received a survey as well, so it appears that a separate survey is being sent to each adult resident.

A DCC Member shared that she received a survey, but she also received a survey with her brother's name on it. He has never lived at the address and never used that address. She asked where did the survey consultant obtain the participants data.

b. Regular Updates from Police Department to City Council

A DCC Member shared that he reviewed reports from multiple municipalities' city council agendas and found that most have regular reporting from their local police departments. During the research he obtain a copy of the monthly report to Culver City City Council from the Culver City Police Department. The report was provided to all DCC Members prior to this meeting. It is an extensive report outlining demographics, incidents of force, racial breakdowns, percentage of use of force compared to calls for service, number of complaints with status of complaints, response times, arrests by race and type, reports filed, racial breakdown of traffic stops, community generated arrests vs. police generated arrests, etc. The other document provided is a list of mandatory reporting from the Police Departments to the California Department of Justice. Many of the items that are required for reporting to the Department of Justice are listed in the Culver City Police Department's monthly report. We must assume that the Signal Hill Police Department is complying with the requirements to report the data to the California Department of Justice which means that the information to develop a monthly report is available and wouldn't be additional work. The DCC should recommend to the City that this type of information should be reported to City Council on a quarterly basis and be put on the City website. This information needs to be on the record.

A DCC Member shared that the report from the Culver City Police Department appears to have professionally prepared graphs. In many cases, once the graph is prepared the data is input into the formula and nothing more is necessary. If there is a cost associated with the preparation of the initial graphs or formula, would

the DCC be able to submit a decision package request for funding? This is important for transparency.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **a. Education**

A DCC Member shared that he reviewed several police departments' trainings and compared them with the list provided by the Signal Hill Police Department. There are a few trainings that we should consider. Including: Relationship based policing, crisis intervention and mediation training, appropriate engagement with English language learners, appropriate engagement with individuals from different religions and the differently abled, and de-escalation and minimize use of force training. The DCC should speak with the interim Police Chief to understand his perspective.

A DCC Member shared that they would like to know about the mental evaluation procedures of the Signal Hill Police Department. When and if officers receive a mental evaluation and who completes the evaluation. It's important to make sure the officer has the appropriate state of mind to accomplish his duties. How does the stress affect them as a person, considering the recent suicide of a Long Beach Police Officer?

### **b. Facilitation**

A DCC Member asked about the recent shooting by a Signal Hill Police Officer of a perpetrator. What happens to an officer when they end someone's life? Are they mentally evaluated? Is there a leave process? How are the officers taken care of?

A DCC Member shared that the past discussion of shoot to injure or stop instead of shoot to kill should remain a focal point.

### **c. Continuous Improvement**

A DCC Member shared that it doesn't appear that the demographics of the Signal Hill Police Department doesn't mirror the community.

A DCC Member shared that the DCC doesn't necessarily mirror the demographics of the Signal Hill Community, but participation was open to all residents and all applicants were invited to participate. The DCC attracted residents that have a vested interest in diversity and building an inclusive community.

A DCC Member shared that it's not the most popular thing in the black community to be a police officer. What are ways the Police Department are conducting outreach? The DCC may need to ask the interim Police Chief about his experiences with diversity recruitment.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### a. Minutes of the Following Meeting

Regular Meeting of December 8, 2021

Recommendation: Approve.

It was moved by DCC Member Caldwell and seconded by DCC Member Wilson to approve the Consent Calendar.

The motion carried 11/0.

## **COMMITTEE NEW BUSINESS**

The Facilitator reported that he spoke with DCC Member Steve Budhraj. Mr. Budhraj reported that he has moved out of the City of Signal Hill and would be resigning his role with the DCC.

The Facilitator reported that he was unable to reach DCC Member Harvey Jones via email or phone. Since this meeting, January 12, 2022 would be his fourth unexcused absence, he would be considered voluntarily resigned according to the approved DCC rules.

A DCC Member asked if the City will be doing anything for Black History Month in February. If so, is there an opportunity for the DCC to collaborate on the project?

A DCC Member asked if there is a time frame for in-person meetings.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by DCC Member Scott and seconded by DCC Member Suggars to adjourn the meeting.

Facilitator adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. to the next regular meeting of the DCC to be held on Wednesday, January 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., via video/teleconference. Instructions to participate in the meeting will be provided on the meeting agenda.

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Facilitator