



EDWARDSVILLE – SIUE COMMUNITY DESTINATION GROUP MINUTES
October 20, 2020

Call to Order: 6:05 pm

Present: Chairman Chad Verbais, Kim Durr, Madelyn Walters, Paul Pitts, Ronald Akpan, Cary Harvengt, Tyler Manning, Cheryl Watson, Joel Hardman

Also Present: Walter Williams, Desiree Gerber, Lindy Wagner (Director of the Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion--SIUE)

Absent: Kaitlyn Kyle, Melissa McDonough-Borden

Guest Speaker: Lindy Wagner, the SIUE Director of the Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion, spoke about what her office was doing on campus. They finished up last month's Hispanic Heritage month with a Latino bingo type of game that was played virtually. Her office is currently working on events focused around LGBT Heritage month with two events planned.

The two types of training that her office has been focusing on is Safe-Zone Training and Diversity Training. Her team has conducted this training in short time blocks and in workshops. First Generation Programming has been another aspect that her office has been dedicated to addressing. They have a couple events scheduled for first generation college students from November 8 through November 10.

Lindy expressed that there is an opportunity in the community for anti-racism focused training. She likes collaborative efforts and her work has tied in faculty, staff and students at SIUE and the same could be done with the community and students. Kim thought a phased in approach with training going on with various groups throughout the year culminating in a capstone event celebrating diversity together with food, music and classes might be a way to bring together SIUE and the community.

Lindy has techniques and is able to moderate when there are individuals in a group who are argumentative or monopolizing during training. She said that normally there are two people conducting the training with one speaking and the other monitoring the participants.

There was some brainstorming going on in regards to what groups to reach out to for the training. The following ideas were mentioned: area churches, asking Aldermen who in their Ward would be interested, and ECUSD # 7. Paul explained what his committee was doing through the NAACP. His committee is preparing a comprehensive report including the issues of racism in the City and recommendations.

Review of September Minutes: Tyler Manning made a motion to approve the September minutes and Cary Harvengt seconded the motion. All were in favor of approving the minutes.

Financials: Cheryl stated that the purchase of the water bottles from Casual Tees was in the amount of \$1,999.74 with \$6,550.01 remaining in the budget.

Water bottles for students: Kim specified that the vendor, Casual Tees delivered the water bottles directly to the dormitory where Mallory distributed the water bottles to all freshman on campus. Kim has requested feedback from Mallory and will pick up any left over water bottles from her. Maddie said that she has noticed a few freshman walking around campus with the water bottles.

Hashbrown Huddle: Tyler stated that there are 30 individuals registered for the Hashbrown Huddle: 13 City Officials, 4 SIUE Administration and Staff, 9 SIUE Government students, and the remainder are committee members. The Mayor is starting the meeting with some opening remarks followed by the Chancellor and then Maddie on behalf of student government. This is a "bring your own breakfast" event this year since it is virtual.

There was discussion on what topics to use for the break out rooms as to whether to focus on one topic or a few topics. The consensus was to have the same three topics of discussion in each break out room with time limits of ten minutes for each topic. After looking at Trisha Lack's notes from last year, the following discussion topics were selected: Diversity Events in the City and/or SIUE, Partnership Events for Homecoming and Family Weekend, and Job Shadowing within the City. Tyler will make an announcement to the break out rooms when topics should be changed to keep the groups on track. Each break out room will come back together with one committee member from each break out room sharing a summary of their ideas to the entire group.

New Art in City Hall and Library: Missy was not present, so no discussion took place.

Rotary Student of the Month: Tyler said the Brett Bertoa was selected for the month of September. There are three students for the month of October, but the selection has not taken place yet.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 6 pm. This meeting will be a hybrid of in person and Zoom.

Adjournment: Joel Hardman made a motion to adjourn. Paul Pitts seconded the motion, and all were in favor of adjourning. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Signature

