CITY OF BELLEVUE BELLEVUE DIVERSITY ADVISORY NETWORK (BDAN) MEETING NOTES

July 24, 2018

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:05 p.m. Bellevue City Hall Room (1E-112)

ROLLCALL, PRESENT: Alaric Bien, Anthony Austin, Haruka Kojima, Jennifer Karls, Aisha Kabani, Eloisa Tran, Chinar Bopshetty, Jingdong Yu, Aleksandra Poseukova, Margie Ye, Justin Daigneault, Mohamed Bakr, Tom Brewer

BDAN MEMBERS ABSENT: Linda Whitehead, Edilberto Flores, Andrew Kelly

STAFF/OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Manuel, Cherry Cayabyab (CGC Consulting),

NOTETAKER: Tom Brewer (Interim Secretary) Notes rather than official minutes.

FACILITATOR: Anthony Austin

NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING APPROVED: Notes of June 26, 2018

AGENDA FOR MEETING APPROVED: As prepared by the Chairman

REVIEW OF DIVERSITY FORUM:

Various BDAN members offered their observations and evaluation of the Diversity Forum held at Bellevue College on June 30th.

* Kudos by acclamation to Cherry Cayabyab and her assistant, Amy, for their excellent work in coordinating the event.
* Attendance came close to best expectations and was clearly representative of the diversity in the Bellevue community. Some of the community liaisons turned out many of their community members.
* Registration and Name Tags were handled efficiently under the leadership of Beabe Akpojovwo.
* The food provided was judged “excellent” by all.
* Justin and Aisha were outstanding in their role as event facilitators.
* Some of the “entertainment performances” were discomforting to a few in the Islamic community.
* Forming affinity groups for discussion was a little rough at first. However, some of the facilitators and community liaisons stepped in with leadership and got people distributed into their appropriate groups eventually.
* Discussion among affinity groups and their facilitators met with mixed reviews. Some of the groups reported lively relevant discussion while others thought the experience “dragged” a bit. In one group the facilitator “…talked on and on failing to facilitate.” Among many of the groups the conversation turned to questioning, “What will be done with all this information and input on diversity the city is gathering?”
* The final, overall evaluation was very positive in that it met the objective of celebrating and climaxing the community survey experience and provided valuable grass roots information to the COB from its increasingly diverse residents.

BRIEF REPORT ON THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:

Cherry Cayabyab introduced Devin, an analyst who reported on the data gained from the community survey. Respondents to the survey numbered 443 and ranged in age from 8 to 88 years of age. (See the separate written report on the survey.)

CULTURAL RESPONSIVE GOVERANANCE (CRG) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:

Jenifer Karls reported on the work of the committee and the plans being made for BDAN to serve in a consulting role for various city staff work groups and other interagency groups seeking information from Bellevue’s culturally diverse population. The CRG committee has arranged for the “pilot” inquiry to BDAN by a city staff group to occur in BDAN’s regular monthly meeting on August 28th. At that time city staff from the Neighborhood Area Planning group will be meeting with us.

There was discussion among BDAN members regarding the format for these consultation meetings. It was agreed that we would request prior information regarding the groups and subjects under consideration so that we can prepare appropriately for the meetings. Margie Ye suggested that BDAN meet together briefly and develop our response format prior to inviting in any outside party into the meeting. We agreed to take that approach when meeting with the Neighborhood Area Planning group in August.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Mark Manuel briefed us on the posting of notices of the opportunity to serve on BDAN. Several interested parties had already registered their interest and they are being contacted and encouraged to apply. Already numerous strong applications have been received from people desiring to join BDAN.

The Nominating Committee will read the applications and using a rubric, evaluate and score the applications before meeting to narrow the field. There are nine positions to be filled and the committee will advance at least that many applicants with recommendation that they be appointed to BDAN. The City Manager will make the final appointments. Processing the applications will be done in August:

* Applications and the evaluation rubric will be sent to committee members by August 20th.
* Committee will meet August 29th and advance recommendations to the City Manager.

BYLAWS RATIFICATION PROCESS:

The current DRAFT of BDAN Bylaws has been posted on SharePoint and all members are encouraged to read them and offer any input to the Bylaws Committee. We are awaiting more input before submitting the Bylaws for a vote however; we are feeling an urgency to get these in place prior to the BDAN Retreat in September.

BDAN ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

* During July and August BDAN will recruit new member applications. We desire to seat 7 to 9 new members on BDAN by the end of August.
* BDAN Retreat will be on September 15, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
* During October & November we will establish BDAN leadership for the New Year.
* January 2019 – BDAN will be delivering advisory services.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:10 p.m.