

**MINUTES OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION BOARD MEETING  
JULY 1, 2024**

The Bastrop Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Board met in a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at Bastrop City Hall, located at 1311 Chestnut Street, Bastrop, Texas. Members present were: Sheila Lowe, George Martinez, Nancy Wood, Carly Bartee as well as Anthony Vasquez and Mary Moody (both virtually), City Manager Sylvia Carrillo, Council Member Kerry Fossler, HR Director Tanya Cantrell and Assistant City Secretary Victoria Psencik were also present.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

At 5:36pm Chair Sheila Lowe called the meeting to order with a quorum being present.

**2. CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Received citizen comments concerning the lack of military/veterans events listed on DEI Board's upcoming events announcements.

SPEAKER(S)

Monica Carson  
108 Nichols Ln  
Bastrop, TX 78602

**3. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**3A. Update and Discussion on past events from previous months:** Yesterfest update from Nancy, aside from hot weather it was a success, around 100 volunteers helped the day run smooth. 2025 Yesterfest planning has started. Pride Street Faire & Festival happened June 1 & 2. Juneteenth Celebration update from Sheila, street dance was well attended on Main Street, new parade route caused some confusion despite efforts to communicate changes, overall the event was a success.

**3B. Update and Discussion on Upcoming Events:** The Journey to Freedom Traveling Exhibition Harriet Tubman Program through August 31, 2024, at Kerr Community Park. Sit with Syl sessions on July 31 and August 28. Economic Equity for Bastrop Entrepreneurs for July 3, 17 and 31. Discussion regarding creating a space on the City of Bastrop website DEI page of the includes a calendar or a link to calendar that the committee creates. Sheila stated that including all the dates of the city sponsored or organizational events was just getting started and is a lot and asked for everyone to contribute while we get the calendar situation figured out.

**4. WORKSHOP:**

**4A. Discussion regarding collaborating with the Cultural Arts Commission with guest presenter, Maria Montoya Stayton.** Maria presented opportunities the CAC has been working on: work calls for commissioned art, Art Walk and the film industry's Extreme Force Hollywood show at Mayfest, November 1-2, 2024. Extreme Force includes a movie, anti-bullying teaching in BISD, training with a Power Ranger as well as a live action stunt show. Maria outlined the Bastrop Bird Junction sculptures coming to Chestnut street, as well as the bird themed play scape. Lastly, Maria explained the many

events included in "First Weekend" in downtown Bastrop. Sheila asked for us to think on ways to be involved.

**5. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:**

**5A. Consider action to approve the DEI Board minutes from the May 22, 2024 Regular Meeting.** George moved to approve minutes from the May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 meeting, Nancy Wood seconded. Vote passed.

**5B. Receive report and update from the City of Bastrop HR Department regarding the May Monthly Employment Reports.** Report from Tanya on the May 2024 numbers of job openings, applicants and hires. Discussed "Make A Difference Monday" being prepared to start soon on social media, highlighting opportunities to work for the city.

**5C. Continued discussion regarding changing the name of the DEI Board.** Discussed new name possibilities. George made a motion to change the name, Nancy seconded. Vote passed. After more discussion of names Nancy made a motion to change the name from DEI Board to "Bridging Bastrop" with "We All Belong" as the tagline, to update the logo to reflect this change (adding TX to it) as well as to present this change to council at next week's meeting. George seconded this motion, vote passed.

**5D. Finalize topics of the infomercials.** Utilities: George & Carly, Permits: City Staff, DEI Board purpose & work: Anthony & Sheila, City of Bastrop Events: Mary & Nancy.

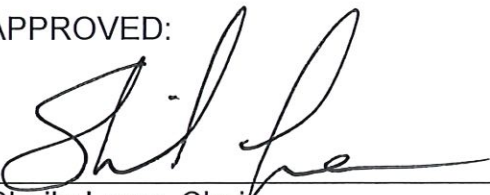
**6. UPDATES:**

**6A. Individual requests from DEI Board Members that particular items be listed on future agendas (no group discussion allowed).** Events to add to upcoming announcements: Memorial Day Event at the cemetery, Veterans "Red, White & Blue Banquet" on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and Bastrop Homecoming. Request for date that website will be updated. P&Z attending July's meeting, Carly to email Sheila discussion ideas created at May 22, 2024 meeting. Historic Landmark commission to attend August meeting.

**7. ADJORNMENT:**

**Chair Sheila Lowe adjourned the meeting at 6:51p.m. without objection.**

APPROVED:

  
Sheila Lowe, Chair

ATTEST:

  
Victoria Psencik, Assistant City Secretary

**The Minutes were approved at the July 24, 2024 meeting.**