From: Bunch, Eric
To: Public Testimony
Subject: Fw: LGBTQ Commission - Thrive Health Connection
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:09:34 PM

Eric Bunch
4th District Councilperson
City of Kansas City, MO

From: Justice Horn <justicetyronehorn@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2020 4:15 PM
To: Caroline Huffman <chuffman@thrivehealthkc.org>
Cc: Bunch, Eric <Eric.Bunch@kcmo.org>; Dastrup, Crissy <Crissy.Dastrup@kcmo.org>
Subject: Re: LGBTQ Commission - Thrive Health Connection

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Hello Caroline,

Thank you for getting back to us so fast and we appreciate your suggestions as well. More importantly, we appreciate your commitment and support to this Commision. In regards to your question, we are taking any and all recommendations from LGBTQ stakeholder groups and would later identify if that becomes an issue. We believe that making Kansas City a better place for the LGBTQ community takes all of us and that Commission should reflect that.

-Justice Horn

On Fri, Oct 23, 2020 at 8:10 AM Caroline Huffman <chuffman@thrivehealthkc.org> wrote:

> Hi Justice,
>
> Thanks for your note.
>
> I have reviewed the info you outlined about the LGBTQ Commission, and I do not have any concerns at this time.
>
> As CEO for Thrive Health Connection, I support the establishment of the Commission.
>
> One question about making a recommendation of someone to serve on the Commission...is the expectation that the individual be someone who identifies as a LGBTQ or can it also possibly be a strong LGBTQ ally?
>
> My best,
>
> Caroline Huffman
>
> On Thu, Oct 22, 2020 at 8:05 PM Justice Horn <justicetyronehorn@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> > Hello Thrive Health Connection,
> >
> > We hope this message finds you well and that you're staying positive during these challenging times. We're reaching out because we've identified you as a valued organization due to your displayed leadership and

advocacy for the LGBTQ Community. Our office (4th District In-District Council Office of the City of Kansas City, Mo.) is creating an LGBTQ Commission that will serve to broaden representation of the LGBTQ community in city government, advise municipal leadership and advocate for local policy initiatives, and to amplify the Kansas City LGBTQ community as an integral leader in the Midwest.

Some of the goals of this Commission will be to assist and support city leadership by serving as an advisory body to the Mayor, City Council, and City Manager on all LGBTQ matters. The Commission will also recommend legislation, policies, programs, procedures, and administrative actions that advance social, economic and political equality for the LGBTQ community, or to oppose those that do not. This Commision will work to make Kansas City a better and more inclusive place for all to live.

Objectives:

- Serve as an advisory body to the City Council regarding issues actually or potentially affecting persons within the LGBTQ community or the LGBTQ community as a whole:
- Serve in an advisory and consultative capacity to the City Council and any identified City departments with the aim of improving the ability of the City and its vendors, contractors, and consultants to serve, support, and employ the LGBTQ community;
- Recommend to the City Council measures designed to enhance the health, safety, economic opportunity and affordability, mobility, cultural and learning opportunities, and government access and accountability for the LGBTQ community;
- Coordinate and/or participate in educational programs to promote equal treatment, opportunity, and understanding of persons within the LGBTQ community, and facilitate gatherings such as meetings, institutes, forums, or courses of instruction designed to lead to greater understanding and crafting of solutions for issues of concern of the LGBTQ community;
- Work with other City Commissions to address issues of intersectionality; and
- Create, guide support, and evaluate LGBTQ quality of life initiatives.
- The Commission shall provide an annual report to the Mayor, City Council and City Manager on its activities and recommendations on matters and City programs affecting the LGBTQ community in the City.

The governing structure is as follows:

- The LGBTQ Commission comprises up to thirteen (13) members. Of initial appointments, seven members shall be appointed for terms of four years, and the remaining eight members shall be appointed for a term of two years. Thereafter all members shall be appointed for a term of four years. All members shall serve without compensation. One person from each Council district (six), each to be appointed by his or her respective council representatives. Seven representatives from the community at-large comprised both professionally qualified members and also citizens-at-large who may bring a broader perspective of community affairs. One representative that has experience or knowledge relating to the business community, One representative that has experience or knowledge relating to health issues, one representative knowledgeable in housing issues, one representative that has expertise in the

education field, one representative knowledgeable in community and public safety issues, and two at large members.

We respectfully request your participation and support in this endeavor. We would like your feedback on this initiative as presented above and ask that you share any concerns you may have by this coming Monday, October 26th, 2020. Please provide your written feedback in a response to this email and let us know if you or your organization would like to officially sign-on as a collaborator in support of this Commission. Lastly, we request that you submit recommendations for individuals to be considered to serve on this Commission to advance the LGBTQ community of Kansas City.

Sincerely,

Justice Horn in collaboration with Kansas City Councilperson Eric Bunch

--

Caroline Huffman
Chief Executive Officer

www.thrivehealthkc.org

Thrive Health Connection
5008 Prospect Ave | Kansas City, MO | 64130

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