

Global Troy Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, November 18, 2021 – 6:00 PM
Council Boardroom
500 W. Big Beaver, Troy, MI 48084

1.) Call to Order

2.) Roll Call

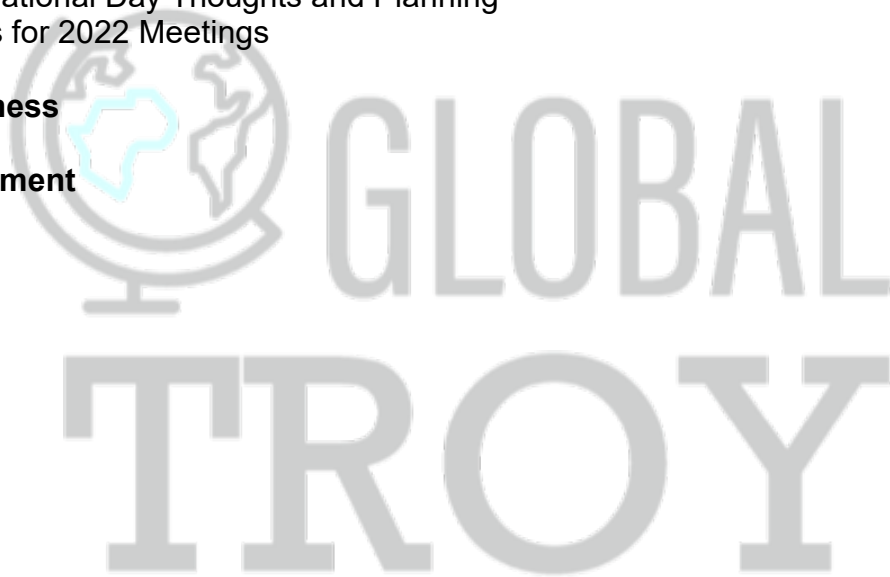
3.) Regular Business

- a. Approve Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2021
- b. International Day Thoughts and Planning
- c. Dates for 2022 Meetings

4.) Other Business

5.) Public Comment

6.) Adjourn



A meeting of the Global Troy Advisory Committee was held on October 19, 2021 in the Council Boardroom located at 500 W. Big Beaver, Troy, MI 48084. in compliance with physical-place and physical-presence requirements of the Open Meetings Act in order to allow electronic meetings.

1.) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

2.) Roll Call

Present: Ethan Baker
Lisa Bica-Grotsky
MiVida Burrus
Awni Fakhoury
Daniela Natcheva
Carolina Noguez Ortiz
Suneel Sekhri

Absent: Allison Liu (Student Representative)
Nas Mohideen
Sharanya Swaminathan (Student Representative)
Tom Zhou

Also present: Sarah Ames, Staff Liaison / Recording Secretary

3.) Consent Agenda

A. Minutes from the August 11, 2021 Regular Meeting

Resolution # GT – 2021-10-01

Moved by: MiVida Burrus
Seconded by: Awni Fakhoury

RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the September 8, 2021 meeting be approved as amended.

Yeas: - 7 -
Nays: None
Absent: - 2 -

4.) Regular Business

A. Continue the discussion of the 3-year event planYear 1:

- Q1: Jan, Feb, March- Major focus Chinese New Year (Lunar New Year) February 1, 2022- work with the library for this (a food and presentation event- registration needed)
 - highlight BHM
 - highlight Passover
 - highlight Holocaust Remembrance Day
- Q2: April, May, June- Major focus Indigenous People's History month
- Q3:
- Q4: October November December – Diwali October 24, 2022- get a speaker and do a presentation at the community center.

Year 2:

- Q1:
- Q2:
- Q3:
- Q4:

Staff Liaison Ames introduced the topic and addressed the discussed focus events from the previous (September 9, 2021) meeting.

The committee discussed the difference between Indigenous People's History Month and American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. The committee agreed that they have to educate themselves on the differences so that they can educate the community.

Committee Member Sekhri noted that there is a Diwali event in Canton Township in the next week.

The committee discussed Diwali in Troy and the fireworks laws.

Committee Member Sekhri noted that there will be a menorah lighting this year on December 5 at the community center and suggested the group could increase the knowledge of the event and community. Maybe we could ask everyone to turn the light on.

Mayor Baker noted that the City Council will have a Diwali proclamation next Monday (October 25, 2021) but that the City doesn't have one for Hanukah.

Committee Member Natcheva noted that the group had discussed having a Jewish person join a meeting or the committee.

Mayor Baker noted that he had thought about someone from the Troy Interfaith Group, and that the group can ask someone to join but they have to be nominated and they have to apply.

Mayor Baker addressed the question “is the board represents the community”?

Committee Member Burrus noted that is up to the group to reach out to community members to help represent the community. Faith is very different from culture. Sometimes it's on us to investigate what things are and to learn about others, get the knowledge and get people to come and

Committee Member Sekhri noted that the group should not focus on religion. There are a lot of emotions and people want to be celebrated if other religions are.

Committee Member Burrus educated the group that Muslim is a culture, not just a religion. This is a part of who the people are. No religion. We have to learn not to offend, we have to educate ourselves.

Mayor Baker asked the group how they should highlight events and how to ask the community about what events they would like to participate in.

Committee Member Burrus noted that the group wants to highlight some events but focus on the “major events”. The group needs to be more strategic about this so that we can be aware of group celebrations and events. We would be celebrating something every single day if we highlighted everything.

Committee Member Natcheva asked the group why we can't do something in person at the community center.

Mayor Baker noted that Recreation plans a lot of the events, so we would have to plan something with them. GTAC can't make the city do something. If we want to plan more cultural-type events proper process would be for GTAC to ask for that directive for Council (produce something to give to Council). In order for the event to happen, it takes a lot of efforts. The group would need someone to run the complete event or we have to give this to Council and ask them to do things.

Committee Member Fakhoury noted that he thinks GTAC should take it upon itself to do these events. We can ask for a room from the City.

Staff Liaison Ames noted that GTAC can work with the library.

Committee Member Sekhri asked the group to do an international day without Troy Family Daze.

Committee Member Burrus asked if the group can focus on our international day thoughts and planning at our next meeting. Let's talk about it strategically and talk about dates that might work. May is a busy month for me.

Committee Member Noguez-Ortiz asked if the group should invite TFD foundation to a meeting to talk about next year's international day to hear the concerns members have.

Mayor Baker said he will contact TFD foundation.

Committee Member Bica-Grotsky noted that TFD is doing a wrap-up meeting Wednesday the 27th at Granite City Brewery.

5.) Other Business

The committee decided to reschedule the November meeting from November 10 to November 18, 2021 at 6pm.

6.) Public Comment

None.

7.) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Ethan Baker, Chairperson

Sarah Ames, Staff Liaison / Recording Secretary