

Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 6:06 p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

I. Invocation – Rabbi Joshua Heller, Congregation B’Nai Torah

II. City Council Discussion Items

A. 2021-039 Sandy Springs Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce

Mayor Rusty Paul stated through the Civic Dinners series we have learned that there are significant groups within our community that do not feel a part of the community at-large. It also became clear of a need to continue to have dialogue and put together ideas, solutions, programs and policies to make all people of the Sandy Springs community feel they are a part, they are welcome and they are needed. One of the things that came about is a creation of a task force, composed of a broad representative part of our community. Appointed to the Sandy Springs Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce are: Jim Bostic, Jr., currently managed director of HEP & Assoc.; Desmond Curry, lives here in Sandy Springs, billing specialist with Rubin Lublin; Raquel Gonzalez, City Clerk of Sandy Springs; Rabbi Joshua Heller of Congregation B’nai Torah; Nicole Morris, a professor at Emory University; Reverend Dr. Bill Murray, Holy Innocents Episcopal Church; Sergeant Salvador “Sal” Ortega, Sandy Springs Police Department; Jose Osorio, Assistant Principal at Lake Forest Elementary; Olivia Rocamora, head of the Spanish Department at The Weber School; and, Clarissa Sparks, Founder and Brand Strategist for Sparks + Company. Members of the taskforce have to either live or work in Sandy Springs. Taskforce members will serve a two-year term. There are still a few others that may be added to the taskforce.

The Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce is charged with asking hard questions; performing a deep dive into identifying the challenges of what keeps people from being fully invested in our community. The taskforce will present its first report to the City Council in six months.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at **6:26 p.m.**

Date approved: February 16, 2021.

Russell K. Paul, Mayor

Raquel D. González, City Clerk