

**ORDINANCE NO: 2022-17**

**INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Emerman**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 161, "DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMISSION," OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MORELAND HILLS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**WHEREAS**, this Council by adopting Ordinance 2021-60 created a new Chapter 161 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Moreland Hills to create the Diversity and Inclusion Commission to celebrate diversity, study system bias and discrimination, educate residents, and provide advice and recommendations to Council on understanding and seeking to eliminate the impacts of racism, and advancing equity, inclusion, fairness and social justice within the Village, without regard to race, color, age, disability, education, marital/family status, sex, gender identity or expression, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, military service or status or veteran status; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council desires to amend Chapter 161 to provide for the appointment of a participant in the Moreland Hills Student Civic Leadership Program ("Program") as a voting member of the Diversity and Inclusion Commission for a one year term in accordance with the provisions of the Program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF MORELAND HILLS, COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA AND STATE OF OHIO THAT:**

**Section 1.** That Chapter 161 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Moreland Hills, "Diversity and Inclusion Commission," be amended to read as follows:

**"CHAPTER 161 DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMISSION.**

**161.01 ESTABLISHMENT**

The Moreland Hills Diversity and Inclusion Commission (the "Commission") is hereby established and authorized to perform the duties and functions enumerated herein.

**161.02 DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS**

Members of the Diversity and Inclusion Commission will study the impacts of racism and other discriminatory actions and beliefs, including implicit bias, in Moreland Hills, and formulate recommendations to address those impacts and to increase engagement and inclusion. The Commission shall provide a report to Council on an annual basis or more frequently as the Commission may deem necessary, and shall make recommendations to Council on engaging residents, celebrating diversity and advancing equity, inclusion, fairness and social justice in the Moreland Hills community and its environs. The Commission's recommendations shall be directed to ensuring that success and a sense of belonging in the community are not related to race,

color, age, disability, education, marital or family status, sex, gender identity or expression, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, military service or status or veteran status.

To accomplish these goals, the Commission may engage in the following general activities:

- (A) Evaluate Village policies, practices and activities, including but not limited to law enforcement, in order to understand the role and extent of explicit and implicit biases that impede the creation or stability of the desired inclusive community, if any such biases are identified.
- (B) Engage residents and businesses to gain input and develop public support for the subject matter of the Commission's goals and responsibilities, in public hearings or other formats authorized by the Mayor and Council.
- (C) Advise the Village on strategies/events/forums to improve outreach and communication, increase engagement, equity and inclusiveness; and celebrate diversity.
- (D) Develop and/or support educational materials/programs for residents that support the Commission's goals.

The Commission shall prepare and submit to the Mayor and Village Council by the end of each calendar year a written report that summarizes its observations and its activities during said year and any recommendations for Council's consideration that may arise from such observations and activities.

Members of the Commission shall have no legislative authority and shall be authorized only to prepare reports for and make recommendations to Council and engage residents in Village-approved events/forums as described in Section 161.02(B).

### **161.03 MEMBERS; TERM**

The Commission shall be composed of nine (9) members, who shall serve without compensation. All members of the Commission shall be residents of the Village of Moreland Hills. The Mayor shall appoint two members of the Commission, the Council President shall appoint one member of the Commission, and six members of the Commission shall be appointed by majority vote of Council. In view of the Commission's charge, the Mayor and Council should seek to make appointments to the Commission that reflect the diversity and inclusion that the Village seeks to foster as described in Section 161.02 and when making such appointments shall consider the appointment of members who are under 25 years of age at the time of appointment. **In addition to the foregoing members of the Diversity and Inclusion Commission, one high school student residing in Moreland Hills who has been selected by Council to participate in the Village's Student Civic Leadership Program may serve as a voting member of the Commission for one year in accordance with the provisions of the Program.**

The initial appointment by the Mayor shall be for two (2) members to serve a four (4) year term; the Council President shall initially appoint a member to a three (3) year term; three members appointed by Council shall initially two (2) year terms; and three members appointed by Council shall initially serve one (1) year terms. Upon expiration of the initial appointment, Commission members shall be appointed to serve four-year terms. A Commission member whose term has expired may be reappointed in the discretion of the Mayor, President of Council and/or Council, as the case may be. In the event of the resignation, death, or disability of a Commission member, removal by a majority vote of the Council for excessive absences on the part of a Council-appointed member, or removal by the Mayor for such reason of a member appointed by the Mayor, such Commission member shall be replaced by the same method as originally appointed (Mayor, Council President or Council).

**161.04 ORGANIZATION**

At their initial meeting following appointment and thereafter at their first meeting held each calendar year, the members of the Commission shall select a Chair, a Vice Chair to serve in the absence or unavailability of the Chair, and a Secretary. The Secretary shall take minutes of the meetings of the Commission and shall forward them to the Clerk of Council in a timely manner.


**161.05 MEETINGS**

Meetings of the Commission shall be open to the public and shall be held according to a schedule to be determined by the Commission, but in no event less frequently than quarterly.

**Section 2.** Existing Chapter 161, "Diversity and Inclusion Commission," of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Moreland Hills, as it existed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance, is hereby repealed.

**Section 3.** The actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings held in compliance with all legal requirements.

**WHEREFORE**, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

  
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Mayor

PASSED: March 9, 2022

ATTEST:  
  
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CLERK