

**Transcript of Public Comment**

**For Public Comment Period (at June 1, 2020 HPCC Meeting)**

**David Rosen**

**[3:05 in duration]**

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**Transcript of Call**

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**David Rosen:** *Good evening Council, Mayor, City Council Members and staff and everyone that's there. It's kind of weird doing this over a phone call, but my name is David Rosen. I'm at 4309 Harding Court, High Point, North Carolina. I am here as a member of the High Point community. I'm also here as part of the High Point Community Builders. High Point Community Builders is a group of men and women, black and white that are together to identify, to discuss, implement issues of racial equality and issues of that nature. We are part of the YWCA. We have been working together for, I believe, over six or nine months and I am part of that group. I am also a citizen of High Point and most importantly, I'm a human being.*

*I'm here to speak on the initiative that's coming forth to Council about the possibility of hiring a new diversity officer and I'm in favor of that on so many different levels. We have a lot of things going on—a lot of great things going on in High Point with our baseball stadium, with Congdon Yards, with a lot of revitalization, and there's a lot of pros. But, there's also a lot of things that have been going on in this city that I think, and we all know, have been pushed under the rug for many periods of time. I read recently today in an article in the paper that one council member wrote, "we have a new council and I was outvoted." We have a new council and "I" was outvoted. Read into that however you want. I personally don't feel it's a real strong or team statement by a certain council member. Our Council needs to be working together, identifying and working together, for the needs of our city and moving forward.*

*We have such great things going on, but we need to have the tough talks. We need to have plans. We need to have more than just talks. We need to have a plan and a process in place. I submit to you that this group, High Point Community Builders, works as a liaison between Council and city staff in moving forward in having the real hard talks, dialogue, and implementation of processes to identify racial equality in the city. No matter what the color of your skin and your gender or your sexual preference, we are all equal. We need to work together. The time is now. It must happen. I'm here to help, but I challenge this council to work together with the High Point Community Builders and let's make a difference that's positive. Thank you.*

*[duration of voice mail 3:05]*