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41 West Street, Cromwell CT 06416
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Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Special Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, July 25, 2022 Time: 6:00 PM

Via Google Meets

1. Call to Order 6:02p

Attendance: Elsie Newcomb, Erin Omicioli, James Demetriades, Clare Serrantino, Whitney Simmons, Mark Dipaola, Ann Grasso, Maricarmen Cajahuaranga

2. Approval of Agenda - approved unanimously

3. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes - motion by clare, second by erin, passed unanimously

4. Town Council Liaison Report - James brought to the committee's attention a social media post using inappropriate language. Also mentioned that Planning and Zoning approved the housing affordability plan and asked to have a committee member join a future meeting to explain the importance of affordable housing. James and Steve Fortenbach discussed ways to have the committee engaged with the community and brought up an idea to maintain the rose garden at Pierson Park. Elsie has a contact that she will reach out to regarding the housing affordability meetings.

5. Cromwell Public Schools District Equity Committee Liaison Report - none

6. LGBTQ+ Committee update - James shared the success of the LGBTQ+ Committee's events during Pride Month

7. Old Business

a. Community Outreach Survey - Erin updated that Alice has been working to present to the town council

b. Content Production / posting schedule - working on how to update and collecting content to share

c. Cromwell Creative District Summer Fest - everyone is set for the event, CCD has sent the booth location and set up information. Elsie had a question on the committee's budget/funding and James has offered to help connect.

d. ADA Event/Project - Elsie is waiting to hear back from her contact

e. Ice Cream for a Dream - Clare has met with the children's librarian who wants to partner with us on Sept 17th in the afternoon. Clare sent that date to Matt at Ice Cream for a Dream to confirm. We will select a book about hopes/dreams to be read, followed by a small craft and then ice cream. The event will be open to the town with a sign up/waitlist. Once the date is confirmed, the subcommittee will meet to brainstorm the event. Motion to approve Sept 17th at the event date by Whitney, Clare second. Passed unanimously.

8. New Business

a. Committee leadership - Sadly, Elsie needs to step away from her leadership role. Which means that the committee needs new chair/co-chairs. We will need to vote on new leadership at our next scheduled meeting.

9. Open Forum/For the Good of the Organization - we all thanked Elsie for her hard work and leadership and are excited to continue our work together

10. Adjourn 6:26pm

Signed,
Erin Omicioli, secretary