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JoAnn Doyle  
TOWN CLERK  
CROMWELL, CT

## **Diversity and Inclusion Committee**

### **Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Monday, October 17, 2022 **Time:** 6:00 PM

**In person at multi purpose room at Cromwell Town Hall and Via Google Meet**

1. **Call to Order 6:02pm**
  - a. **Attendance:** Erin Omicioli, Whitney Simmons, Clare Serrantino, Carol Perry, Alice Henley, Aubry (h.s. Equity committee board member), Sarah Maffioli, Beth Falcigno, Bob McNaughton, Ann Grasso
2. **Approval of Agenda** - motion to approve Carol, second Clare, passed
3. **Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes** - motion to approve Alice, second by Carol, passed
4. **Welcome and Introductions**
5. **Town Council Liaison Report** - Ann and the CCD had a meeting with the town council last week; council has approved a proposal to work with the town manager to make the space workable and to allow CCD to raise the funding needed.
6. **Cromwell Public Schools District Equity Committee Liaison Report** - training and new facilitator selection is in process to work with Gloria for future courageous conversations. Beth has been invited to staff meetings to have a town committee member work with the school committee. Clare was at the ECS meeting and ECS wants to be more inclusive by looking at different cultures and creating culture maps. Beth is willing to reach out to "No Place for Hate" to get info on how to bring their message into the school system and the town.
7. **LGBTQ+ Committee update** - they have been working on making town forms inclusive
8. **Old Business**
  - a. Trick or Trunk subcommittee update - theme, supplies and candy are all set. DEI needs volunteers to be at the event - Erin, Clare and Alice will be at the event.

## **9. New Business**

- a. Partner with the library for a book club or sponsored book - Youth Services can help acquire books that the library may not have. Committee members will look up books for adults and children to start our recommended list - including online research (i.e. - Conscious Kid instagram page) for ideas, and lists of banned books. This can include having community members leave recommendations at the desk at the town library and the libraries in the schools. Partner with the schools and the senior center/Covenant Village. Ann suggested reaching out to the Covenant Living librarian for ideas. We want to also make sure there are audio/large print/braille copies of the materials. We will create a sub-committee for this at the next regular meeting.
  - i. Finding your spot in the world by Diane Alber
  - ii. Small Great Things by Jodi Piccoult
- b. Create a social media calendar, including content
  - i. Use our social media to partner with others, especially those who are tech savvy
  - ii. Post from our meeting minutes that we need help from the community
  - iii. Post meeting info
  - iv. Email ideas to Sarah who can help with posting and moderating content
  - v. Send summary of meetings to town council member who can read our update into the minutes at council meetings
- c. Discussion to partner with Cromwell schools; including reaching out to Gloria Mengual for guidance
  - i. Clare has been in contact with Gloria. She would like to come join our next meeting and even have an event at the library.

## **10. Open Forum/For the Good of the Organization**

- a. Whitney is interested in attending DEI Committee meetings in neighboring towns. She will look up meetings that are open to the public and coordinate who wants to attend
- b. Sadly, Bob has to resign from the committee. We will miss you, Bob, and thank you for all that you did with us. Bob asked to be kept in the loop regarding meetings and events.
- c. There was a question on the community survey - we are stuck in limbo on whether or not it needs to be approved by the town council before we distribute it to the town.

## **11. Adjourn 7:07pm**

Signed,

Erin Omicioli

Secretary