



41 West Street, Cromwell CT 06416
860-632-3448

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Special Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, May 3, 2021

Time: 6:30PM

VIA ZOOM

In attendance: Aigné Goldsby, Elsie Newcombe, Erin Omicioli, Alice Henley, Jennifer Beck, Clare Serrantino, Carol Perry, Sue Vanderzee, Ann Grasso, Heather Dillon, Bob McNaughton, Jazzy Hampton, Mark DiPaolo

Town Liaison: Kate Puorro

Town Council Liaisons Present: James Demetriades

The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

The minutes for the previous meeting were accepted without corrections.

Next item on the agenda was consideration of a logo. After discussion, the second option was ruled out quickly because of the amount of ink in the black box. Sue made a motion, seconded by Alice, to approve option #1 with the shadows removed from the letters. Eleven votes in favor. This option can be used in both color and grayscale.

James reported that he had reserved the football field on Tuesday, May 25, from 5:30-7 pm for a program commemorating the death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police one year ago. There will be an outdoor PA system available, and James will run plans by the town Health Director in order to comply with health regulations. The program as envisioned so far includes an introduction by the two chairs of the committee— Aigné and Elsie—followed by an introduction of the mission and purpose of the DEI committee and its members. The mic will then be open to comments from the attendees. Elsie asked about accessibility details of the outdoor site. Members were pretty sure that a paved path existed for those with mobility challenges.

During discussion it was suggested that the schools should be involved as well as faith communities. James asked about inviting state and local politicians. It was decided that the mayor would be specially invited, along with State Rep Christie Carpino and State Senator Matt Lesser, but they will not be asked to speak, except if they avail themselves of the open mic at the end of the program. Jazzy volunteered to see if the event could be part of the morning announcements at the high school.

Aigné, Elsie and James will continue with specific planning, and anyone on the committee is welcome to touch base with them. Claire asked about possible t-shirts for the committee and will research that option and Kate will prepare a poster.

The next regular meeting of the committee will be held on Monday, May 17, at 6:30 pm on Zoom. At that time, we will finalize plans for the May 25 event.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 after a motion by Sue and second by Alice.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue VanDerzee