



**TOWN OF CROMWELL  
LGBTQ COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 16th, 2021  
07:00 P.M.**

**Minutes**

In Attendance: Kate Puorro, Jacey Long, Molly Sayles, Matt Brown, Thomas Foran, Maia Pavlick

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

7:04 PM

**2. ROLL CALL/PRONOUNS**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Agenda amended to move Chair and Liaison Reports into the Pride Crosswalk conversation. Motion by Thomas, second by Matt, passed unanimously.

**4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Matt, second by Molly, passed unanimously.

**5. CROMWELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPORT**

Molly shared about the end of the school year adding that there is really positive support from administration and the superintendent to support LGBTQ+ students. Kate asked if school staff are still able to communicate with students over the summer, Molly said yes. Matt added that his children still have access to their devices and power school over the summer. Jacey talked about ways to engage LGBTQ+ students and allies throughout the summer. Matt introduced thinking about ways to welcome students back to school, especially those transitioning to new buildings. Molly talked about a plan for advisory boards around different school climate issues. Molly spoke about plans to continue to support LGBTQ+ and all students. Maia added that there's been talk about an equity committee with different subcommittees, LGBTQ+ being one of them.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Supporting Transgender Students-Completed



B. Pride Walk-Update from Town Council and Town Manager

Jacey updated the group about the outcome of the Town Council meeting. The group expressed their disappointment and confusion. Jacey and Matt were in attendance in addition to 9 Cromwell community members. The Town Manager and Chief of Police cited liability concerns, Councilman Demetriades (liaison to this committee) pointed out cities such as West Hartford, Middletown and other communities around the state with Pride Crosswalks. The Mayor was supportive of Pride initiatives and suggested an event next year. Public comments centered around taking action now, personal experiences in town, and the importance of representation and visibility in welcoming communities. The Town Manager invited the committee to schedule a meeting to talk over alternative ideas. Kate, who serves as liaison to the Youth Advisory Board and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee shared those members' frustrations and support. Kate shared a list of alternative ideas that YAB had put together and other community partners who may be supportive.

The group considered alternative options for the meeting with the Town Manager and also considered alternative options throughout the community.

Jacey will reach out to the Town Manager's office with the hopes of meeting early next week. Once scheduled, Jacey will calendar a special meeting for this committee to share the outcome for those who can't attend the Town Manager's meeting and discuss next steps.

C. LGBTQ ally and support training-scheduling trial workshops

Tabled for next meeting, motion by Molly, second by Maia, passed unanimously.

**8. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION**

None

**9. ADJOURN**

8:09 PM, motion by Maia, second by Matt, passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

*Katelynn Puorro*

*Matt Brown*