

RECEIVED FOR FILING  
11/4/2021 at 8:40AM.  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
CROMWELL, CONN.

  
TOWN CLERK



**TOWN OF CROMWELL  
LGBTQ COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 3rd, 2021  
07:00 P.M.**

**Minutes**

- Attendance:
  - Sarah Backe, James Demetriades, Molly Sayles, Kathy Bremer, Maia Pavlick, Lana Dupont, Matt Brown, Jacey Long, Laura Stull
- 7:10- Meeting called to order
- 7:11- Motion to approve the meeting minutes
  - Approved
  - Seconded
- James brought up the topic of potentially having a new leader
- Jacey issued an apology
  - Wants to be held accountable
  - Wants a leadership role/wants to be present
    - Had a difficult time juggling everything
- James mentioned that we, as a committee, need to figure out our needs and reiterated that he's a liaison (rather than a committee member)
- Lana Dupont spoke
  - Shared that her kids were tortured in the Cromwell school system
  - Everything has been stagnant for the last two years
    - Wants the committee to move forward with something fresh/get ourselves out there
      - Mentioned that there was interest on the Cromwell Facebook community page; we need to get our name/message out there (paraphrased)
  - Mentioned the past idea of starting a FB page
    - Added that her daughter could help with this
    - Urged us to
- James mentioned we should have a core group of people in order to have a quorum
  - Have friends

- Mayor called tonight's meeting
- Do we want a co-chair?
  - Jacey is having a hard time committing due to a variety of other obligations
- Jacey expressed that she can't do this alone
  - We should define roles in general
  - Everything has been informal
  - Asked if anyone was willing to take on a greater role
- Lana feels that we should have a member of the LGBTQ community in a leadership role
  - She was disheartened to not see members from the past; doesn't want us to lose members
  
- Matt is willing to help more
  - He feels like Lana does
    - Would love to see someone in the LGBTQ community to be in a chair role
    - Mission statement/goals
      - Safe social environment? Promote education?
  - Re-group with how we want to move forward in future meetings (winter time)
    - Come up with plans
- Kathy B appreciates what everyone has done
  - Praised Jacey for her efforts
  - Would like Jacey to remain in a Chair role, but in the interim, if she needs time off, suggested that maybe we make a motion to appoint someone else
- Jacey: Would James or Lana be willing to step up as Chair?
  - Lana said she could sit in if Jacey needed a break
- Kathy: directed a question to Lana- are there other people that you feel would join this committee that have the same mindset and could help us move forward to get the word out there?
  - Parents, students, community members, etc.
    - Lana: we have to start with the school system
      - Her experience/her daughters was horrendous
        - Gross lack of support, namely at the high school
        - Physical/mental abuse- unresponsive law enforcement/administration
          - Minimal assistance from the guidance dept whose hands were tied
- James: We should make a motion
- Laura T: newcomer to town; scared to be out/open in community (paraphrased)
  - Knows that she can be free in town as an adult, but worries about the children in this community
  - Would like to be active in the committee, but doesn't feel her work schedule would permit her to play a leadership role

- Maia spoke to share strides that are being made at CMS/school district with regard to LGBTQ awareness & education
- Jacey made a motion- Lana/Matt become a co-chair at 7:46 pm (then, we switched to the next Zoom link)
- New Zoom meeting started
  - Lana, Matt, James- can bring up (in the regular November meeting) what they've brainstormed behind the scenes
    - Maybe we break up into sub-committees
      - James encouraged a divide and conquer approach in order to achieve different goals
    - Proposed a motion to move forward with Lana & Matt as temporary chairs
    - Motion carried unanimously from now through January (31st)
      - Lana and Matt will lead through 2021
- Motion to formalize Nov. 17 and Dec 15. Meetings
  - Motion passed
- 2022
  - Dec 1-- submit meeting schedule to the Town Clerk
    - James asked if we were comfortable with the 3rd Wednesday of the month
      - January 19th, February 16th, March 16th, April 20th, May 18th, June 15th, July 20th, August 17th, September 21st, October 19th, November 16th, December 21st
        - Motion to approve: everyone
- Sarah will be an official member versus a "friend" of the group-- James asked for her preference
- Matt requested people to compile notes/feedback/suggestions so we have talking points for the Nov. 17th meeting
  - Email Matt by next Wednesday, 11/10
- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01