

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
Town of Chelmsford, MA
April 12, 2022

Members in attendance :

Latosha Dixon, Chair, Carly Reim, Co-chair, Susan Mackinnon, Clerk,

Lorena Betts, Rachel Donovan, Cherrice Lattimore

Absent: Tricia Dzuris, Lauren Cochran

Call to Order 7:03 pm.

This meeting is being held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Approval of minutes of March 29, 2022, meeting

C. Reim made a motion to approve the 3-29-22 minutes. R. Donovan seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Business

New member announcement

Lorena Betts is now a member of the committee.

Logo

The designer will create and send a package with color, b&w, and different fonts and sizes of the chosen logo.

--C. Reim made a motion to add an agenda item for C. Lattimore to speak about a new initiative.

Seconded by Mackinnon.

Lattimore suggested an annual or bi-annual award to community members who have made a contribution in the area of diversity and inclusion.

Working Group Updates

Land Acknowledgement –

L. Dixon and C. Reim sent an email to committee members, board members and town meeting representatives to give information about the new Land Acknowledgement accepted by the Select Board.

The Chelmsford Public Library applied for a grant that would support organizations that wish to educate the community about Indigenous people.

The working group met with the Chelmsford Historical Society, who agreed to work along with this group to promote LA and learning about Indigenous people of the area and added information to their website. The group is also in contact with the Greater Lowell Indian Cultural Association.

LGBTQAI+ Community Listening Session

The Listening Session, a partnership between the DEI and the Select Board will be held on May 16, at the McCarthy School Auditorium. T. Dzuris will ask Maura Snow to host the event. Dzuris will be the timekeeper. R. Donovan will be the note taker. L. Betts will work on managing Zoom.

Donovan brought up a recent incident of vandalism of a pride flag and flagpole in N. Chelmsford, as a reminder that attention is needed.

Event will be promoted on Facebook and on the DEI town webpage. CTM will post it on the town TV channel. L. Dixon will ask the Chelmsford Police to post on Twitter and will ask for police detail.

Juneteenth

C. Lattimore and C. Reim will co-chair. Working group met yesterday. Lattimore would prefer that this not be a working group with a chair. She suggested that everyone take on roles to get the jobs done. The event will be held on June 18. The Town common reserved for 12-4 pm. The event will be from 1-3. Police and fire approved. CCA available for restrooms. One day food permit obtained. Pete Pedulla contacted. DJ Tony secured. Groton Diversity Task Force will partner. Raquel Majeski from Groton will be one of the speakers. Pop-up Library truck invited. Donovan will ask local churches for permission to park. Reim – ice cream truck and a hot dog truck agreed to event. Hot dog vendor will give 10% of his proceeds to DEIC. Mackinnon and Lattimore have some performers and vendors lined up. Monarchs Basketball team. Someone will look for their contact information. Coloring pages for kids, bubbles and balls
Reim asked the Select Board to announce event.

Education

--CHS Student Invitation- pending contact from some groups at the high school.
--Bystander Training, better titled "Restorative Practices"
S. Mackinnon will be attending "Creating Safe Spaces on the Sidelines – A Panel Discussion on Fostering a Culture of Respect & Conduct in our Schools & at Athletic Events," sponsored by District Attorney Marian Ryan's office, on April 13.
C. Lattimore has scheduled time to talk with educational consultant Michele Shannon-Mingo. We also are pinning down an appointment to meet with CHS Athletic Director to share ideas.
S. Mackinnon, C. Lattimore, L. Betts, L. Cochran – working group

Watch It Wednesdays

April 27 – *I Am Sam*

May date will be changed for *Henrietta Lacks* to a different week.

June - *A Secret Love* and *Torch Song Trilogy*

Day of Peace No report

Meeting schedule

Next Meeting will be virtual. April 26, 2022, at 7pm

Agenda items:

Discussion about Community Award, C. Lattimore

Finance update, Logo update

Working groups: Land Acknowledgement, LBGTOIA Listening Session, Juneteenth, Restorative Education Practices, Day of Peace, Pride month (bunting)

Ask Patrick Snow, of Rainbow Chelmsford, to attend May 10 meeting.

Please send any other agenda requests to L. Dixon before April 21.

S. Mackinnon will be unable to attend. Requests that someone else take the minutes. Carly Reim will take the minutes.

Adjournment

Mackinnon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Reim. Meeting adjourned 8:04 pm.

Minutes submitted by Susan Mackinnon, Clerk,
Diversity, Racial Equity, and Inclusion Committee