

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
Town of Chelmsford, MA
July 14, 2021

Members in attendance :

Lauren Cochran, Latosha Dixon, Rachel Donovan, Tricia Dzuris, Cherrice Lattimore, Susan Mackinnon, Joseph Mason, Carly Connor Reim (via Teams), Brian Petro-Roy

Call to Order 7:00 pm.

Approval of minutes of June 22, 2021, meeting

Minutes amended to show that T. Dzuris was absent from the 6/22/21 meeting. Motion to approve made by J. Mason. B. Petro-Roy seconded. Motion approved.

Committee Business

-Swear in committee members

- L. Dixon and L. Cochran sworn in for term ending 6/30/2022.
- R. Donovan and C. Lattimore sworn in for term ending 6/30/2023.
- S. Mackinnon, J. Mason, and B. Petro-Roy sworn in for term ending 6/30/2024.
- T. Dzuris was previously sworn in for a term ending 6/30/2023.

-Accept nominations and Vote for Chair, Vice Chair, Clerk

- T. Dzuris nominated Susan Mackinnon to be clerk. Petro-Roy seconded. Mackinnon was unanimously elected.
- B. Petro-Roy declined nomination as Vice Chair because he does not believe a white male should serve in a leadership role of this committee.
- B. Petro-Roy nominated Latosha Dixon for Chair. L. Cochran seconded. Dixon was unanimously elected.
- L. Dixon nominated Carly Connor Reim as Vice chair. T. Dzuris seconded. Reim was unanimously elected.

Working Group Updates

International Day of Peace and Justice – Sept 25, 1-5 PM

Application sent to Lt Spence. Unitarian Church agreed to use of their outdoor space. Dance and a cappella groups approved. HS clubs to be involved with making flags and painting rocks. Vendors being solicited.

Diversity training - Live screening of *I'm Not Racist, Am I?* scheduled for September 22, 2021, from 7-10 pm at the PAC.
\$2000 via sponsorship through the Greater Lowell Community Foundation was secured for Point Made Learning film. We will seek additional funding. We might look to towns and groups to co-sponsor the event, such as Westford or Acton, or the Racial Justice For Black Lives group.

There will be a discussion panel, a link to questions, quizzes (through interactive software such as mentimeter).

L. Dixon will inform the Select Board about the date and recommend they take the training prior to the film screening.

Library film series – The next Watch It Wednesday will be on July 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 Carly Reim will be the moderator.

Meeting schedule

The last Wednesday of each month is Watch it Wednesday with the Chelmsford Public Library. Discussion ensued about holding DEIC meetings on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays to avoid conflict, or once a month for an hour and a half.

B. Petro-Roy made a motion to hold meetings once a month, with ad hoc meetings added as needed. T Dzuris seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, August 4 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm.

Agenda items-

Review 2021 goals and accomplishments. Discuss how to engage community, perhaps a Facebook page

Diversity calendar – choose four focus areas

Anti-racist pledge – current and future resident engagement, easier QR code to link.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by T. Dzuris Seconded by R. Donovan. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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