

## **Town of Hartford Committee on Racial Equity and Inclusion**

**Wednesday January 20, 2021**

**6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

**In Attendance:** Allene Swienckowski (She/Her), Nancy Russell (She/Her), John Hall (He/Him), Sara Campbell (She/Her), Russell North (He/Him), Alicia Barrow (She/Her)

### **6:01 PM Call to Order**

- MOTION: John moves to approve minutes 1/06/21 - seconded Nancy - passed unanimously

### **6:00 PM Acknowledge Community Members**

- Attendance: Rebecca Whitney, Pat Autilio, Kim Souza
- Input from community members - Appreciation from Becca on member involvement in the QES MLK Day conversation.

### **6:10 PM Discussion: Update to Charge**

- Specifically - what is HCoreI's role when school, town, or citizens reach out for HCoreI participation in panels, discussions etc.
- Does the charge give the committee permission to engage beyond research and recommendations to the boards?
  - Example - the participation in MLK event for QES day - is this in our charge? think these are fine when invited into the school
  - Rebecca shared that the event at the Quechee library two years ago was the reason she reached out to the committee when she was looking at anti-racism and her library
- Does the charge allow for discussion with students, community members, teachers staff on how to engage in these topics?
- Does the charge allow for providing tools (example - the research library) to teachers or community members as they navigate these issues?
- Does Section V on page one directly address this question?
  - *The HCoreI Committee is charged with gathering information and making recommendations to the School Board and Selectboard, coordinating programming, and engaging in public dialogue for the purpose of:*
  - *V: Supporting the Town of Hartford and Hartford School District through increasing cultural sensitivity by cultivating greater understanding of the concepts of diversity, inclusion, equity, implicit bias, white privilege, white supremacy and systemic racism.*
- Nancy discussed with the VT School Board Association - the boards are not able to set curriculum - but references or suggestions can be made and are up to the boards to decide to accept or not
- Does HCoreI have the support of the boards to engage when invitations are made?

The School Board has time on their next agenda to discuss this topic.

HCoreI will have 15min on SB agenda - Russ will send invite

MOTION: Sara moves that John and Sara will meet ad hoc to work on Section V of the charge to prepare to discuss with the School Board on 1/27. Seconded Nancy, Passed Unanimously

