

Town of Hartford Committee on Racial Equity and Inclusion

Wednesday February 17, 2021

6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

In Attendance: Allene Swienckowski (She/Her), Joe Major (He/Him), Sara Campbell (She/Her), Ann Raynolds (She/Her), Russell North (He/Him), Giavanna Munafo (She/Her)

6:00 PM Call to Order

- Approve meeting minutes from Feb. 2, 2021
- **MOTION:** Giavanna moves to pass, Joe Seconded. Passed Unanimously
- **MOTION:** Allene moved to Table first agenda item for next meeting. Sara Seconded. Passed unanimously

6:05 PM Acknowledge Community Members

- Input from community members
- In attendance: Audrey Devost, Brigid and Molly Armbrust, Kim Souza, Kevin Christie

6:06 PM Discussion to form subcommittee to Address cases of harassment, threats, etc.

- **Tabled to next meeting**

6:09 PM Break out into subcommittees

6:30 PM Subcommittee rejoin full. Committee

- **Policy**
 - Currently reviewing HR policies, Social Media Policies
 - Looking at similar sized towns if they have Equity and Inclusion in their mission statements or policies
 - Potential recommendations: Annual policy review, Policy repository
 - Eventually the school board wants to review their ends policies with a lens of equity and inclusion
 - Joe mentioned the Communications Manager role and his desire to get it into the next budget cycle, this will help with both the website and the accessibility of the policies to the town.
 - Next Meeting Monday, Feb 22nd.
- **Housing**
 - Gov. Scott looking to invest 32mil towards affordable housing. Joe is working with developer and state senator Windsor to try to get funds to Hartford. The state is looking for shovel ready projects.
 - St. Paul's is exploring possibility of with Andrew Winter (Twin Pines) and Michael Redman (Haven) to use the land the church sits on for supportive housing. Permanent residential space with common areas and social supports.
- **Education**
 - Resource library progress - vetting documents and deadline of March 1st for sharing with the boards.
 - Discussed the book - My Grandmother's Hands <https://bookshop.org/books/my-grandmother-s-hands-racialized-trauma-and-the-pathway-to-mending-our-hearts-and-bodies-9781942094470/9781942094470>

6:50 PM High School Equity Club formation

- Brigid and Molly Armbrust are working to form a Social Equity Club at the High School and are asking for recommendations to get started.
- Start by focusing on a specific topic that appeals to a group and find likeminded students and build from there.
- Try things, review them and build from there.

7:00 PM New Business

- School Board Community meeting - 6pm, 02/24/21
- Next Meeting: Bring thoughts and ideas around how to support people who experience harassment, threats etc.
- Post-election organization will take place on the meeting 3/17.

7:19 PM Adjournment

Ann moves to adjourn