

Town of Hartford Committee on Racial Equity and Inclusion

Wednesday August 4th, 2021

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Giavanna Munafo (she/her), John Hall (he/him), Joe Major (he/him), Russ North (he/him)

- 6:14 PM Call to Order
Approve Meeting Minutes
Giavanna moved; Russ seconded; passed unanimously
- 6:17 PM Acknowledge and welcome community members (input)
Kim Souza, Molly Armbrust, Brigid Armbrust, Michelle Boleski
- Molly and Brigid met with Maggi about HHS student equity group's work and are preparing goals for her advisement
 - Michelle asked about the possibility of providing opportunities to White residents to become involved in our work, esp. workshops around allyship and engagement – add to education working group goals?
 - o A White Affinity Group (WAG) has been formed by the Social Equity Caucus; SURJ continues their work
- 6:23 PM Review Declaration of Equity, Inclusion, and Justice
- Produced by Selectboard after reviewing other towns' similar documents
 - It's long, could it be briefer?
 - Share Ann's suggested changes with minutes of this meeting for discussion at next HCOREI meeting
- 6:30 PM Review education goals for coming year
- Clarification: BARWE, Building Antiracist White Educators, is a reading group of teachers in the Hartford school district (<https://www.learningforjustice.org/magazine/how-can-we-build-antiracist-white-educators>)
 - Resource Library
 - o could be a credit-bearing “internship;” could be connected to student committee at HHS, “student equity committee”
 - o library must be updated and checked regularly
 - o need a PR campaign for it
 - o town and school budget process approaches so we can request funding, perhaps joint, to manage and promote, needs to happen before October

- touch base with appropriate folks to explore best approach
- does the Strategic Plan specify any funding? maybe include in request some of the other education related goals?
- Collaboration and Cooperation with Other DEI Efforts
 - we need to identify a liaison to BARWE
 - HSD equity advisory group needs more community participation; new members will be identified at their next meeting; more discussion to follow about possible community members to tap
 - important to get more info available about Maggi's role and priorities; esp in ongoing community engagement efforts and around Ends Policies
 - public info/education about "critical race theory;" involve Tom, Maggi, etc.
 - it would be useful for HCOREI committee members to attend Community Engagement meetings; invitation to upcoming training at next Community Engagement meeting in Sept. is forthcoming ; school board moving forward with ongoing education
 - we need more information about how the school board will be providing info and education to the families and teachers, etc. about Maggi's role and approach
- Improve HCOREI Recommendation Process
 - recommendations process is applicable to all HCOREI recommendations, not only re: education related ones
- Russ moved to approve the education goals; Giavanna seconded; approved unanimously

- 7:21 PM Draft and discuss policy goals for the coming year
- Report from policy working group
 - policy queries out, some response, more forthcoming
 - working group to meet with Tracy in person when possible
 - SHDR working group has not met; Pat busy moving the work forward
 - Sara not in attendance, time short, goals discussion tabled

- 7:30 PM New business
- include Review Declaration of Equity, Inclusion, and Justice on next agenda (include suggested revisions)
 - include policy goals on next agenda
 - include discussion re: open seat on HCOREI on next agenda

- 7:33 PM Adjourn
- Joe moved to adjourn