

HCOREI MEETING MINUTES 10/7/2020

Town of Hartford Committee on Racial Equity and Inclusion

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

6 pm to 7:30 pm

6:08 pm Call to order

In attendance: Allene Swienckowski, Joe Major, Russell North, Giavanna Munafo, Alicia Barrows, Ann Raynolds, Nancy Russell

Discussion: Group Norms

Motion: No changes or additions. Previously passed 09/16/20

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes of 9/16/20

Motion by Ann Raynolds, seconded by Joe

Passed: Unanimously

6:15 PM Acknowledge Community members:

Rebecca Whitney, Pat Autilio.

6:17 pm Strategic Plan:

Reviewed first page of School Implementation Plan 0-1st month (AR version by months). All these items are for the School Board and Administration to accomplish. HCOREI members expressed understanding that with the passage of the Hartford School District Anti-Racism Policies and Procedures in June/July of 2020, the School has been working on the reopening of schools and remote learning plans with all the COVID-19 regulations. They postponed attention to the Strategic Plan specifically until fall.

Discussion: Allene presented her work currently in the schools at the request of School Administrators with the Schools' efforts to begin implementing the Anti-Racism Policy and Procedures passed by the School Board in July 2020.

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Discussion: A continuation about the current and future work for HCOREI on the Implementawtion of the Strategic Plan when the School Board. Discussion ranged from the task before the schools to move in the direction of difficult conversations for both Teachers/staff and Parents to support and training for teachers/staff.

Discussion: Rebecca Whitney, a HHS high school English teacher, shared her experiences in discussing Frederick Douglass’s writings with her students re: not using the “N” word, as well as her experience with a parent unhappy about discussions about politics, race etc. As a teacher, Ms. Whitney recommended for HCOREI to offer to teachers a Forum to discuss their difficult conversations surrounding their work with students and their parents.

Allene reported that Select Board Chair Dan Fraser had reached out and requested direction about the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

7:17

Announcements:

Alicia reported that SafeSpaces is up and running and open to volunteers.

7:35

Motion: Joe made a motion to adjourn.
Adjourned at 7:40 PM