

MINUTES
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee
March 18, 2021

The meeting of the Sharon Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee was called to order at 7:02 by Chair Mrs. Kiana Pierre-Louis remotely via Zoom in accordance with Governor Baker's emergency declaration regarding public gatherings. The following, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee members were in attendance:

Members Present

Chair:	Mrs. Kiana Pierre-Louis
Clerk:	Mrs. Wendy Alexis-Janvier
Other Members:	Lt. Stephen Coffey
	Mr. Lajos Kamocsay
	Rev. Dr. Bill Kondrath
	Ms. Marjorie Mitlin
	Zainab Mohammed
	Ms. Ellie Zinno

Members Absent

Vice Chair: Ms. Dru Ledbetter

Others Present

Select Board Member Emily Smith-Lee

Administrative Items

Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION: (Alexis-Janvier - Kamocsay) To approve the regular session minutes of 1/7/21 and 1/28/21.

VOTED: 7-0-0 **PASSES**

Mrs. Wendy Alexis-Janvier	Yes
Lt. Stephen Coffey	Yes
Mr. Lajos Kamocsay	Yes
Zainab Mohammed	Yes
Ms. Ellie Zinno	Yes
Mrs. Kiana Pierre-Louis	Yes
Rev. Dr. Bill Kondrath	Yes

Amend Meeting Minutes

MOTION: (Alexis-Janvier - Coffey) To amend the regular session minutes of 12/8/21.
VOTED: 7-0-0 **PASSES**

Mrs. Wendy Alexis-Janvier	Yes
Lt. Stephen Coffey	Yes
Mr. Lajos Kamocsay	Yes
Zainab Mohammed	Yes
Ms. Ellie Zinno	Yes
Mrs. Kiana Pierre-Louis	Yes
Rev. Dr. Bill Kondrath	Yes

Email Correspondence Update

Wendy Alexis-Janvier shared the email correspondence from February 22, 2021 through March 18, 2021.

The Greater Us – Planning for DEI Training

Chair Pierre-Louis shared a quick summary of the groups within Sharon committees and boards that will receive training and introduced the members of the Greater Us who will conduct the training.

Greater Us members Lena and Nicole shared some details with the committee on the upcoming diversity, equity, and inclusion training, asked member to share what motivated them to lead diversity, equity, and inclusion and conducted an assessment as part of the kick-off to the training. Committee members shared their background and why diversity, equity, and inclusion are important to them, and addressed questions asked by Lena and Nicole. Lena and Nicole also shared their backgrounds.

Finalize remaining DE&I training dates

The committee discussed available dates to conduct the training. The final decision was made to work on the dates with the Select Board and follow-up with Greater Us after we've agreed on the training dates.

Asian Coalition of MA

Chair Pierre-Louis held a moment of silence for the lives lost in a mass shooting. Mrs. Pierre-Louis also shared her thought on hate crimes that have been targeted on the Asian community.

Jasmine Ni of Asian Coalition of MA shared information on the Asian Coalition of MA, the group's priorities, and the work the group has been doing for the community. She also answered questions from the committee and community.

Advisement of Select Board and joint meeting Indigenous People Day

Chair Pierre-Louis reminded the committee that they advised the School Committee on Indigenous People Day. There has been progress on the advisement to the School Committee with a unanimous decision to change the day to Indigenous People Day. A town meeting is needed to change the holiday name from Columbus Day to Indigenous People Day. There are plans to hold a joint meeting with DEIC, Select Board, and stakeholders. The committee has been asked to advise the Select Board on changing the day to Indigenous People Day/Columbus

Day. Mr. Kamocsay asked whether there was still time to change the holiday name for 2021? Mrs. Alexis-Janvier asked about ETA on making a decision on the “slash,” as further research is needed to provide clear understanding as why the “slash” shouldn’t be included. Ms. Mitlin shared that she liked the idea of easing the town into the change.

DEIC sponsored town events

Chair Pierre-Louis shared that town committees are willing to co-sponsor events with the DEIC. Commission on Disability would like to host an event with DEIC, “Crimp Camp.” As part of the DEIC mandate it’s important for us to host events on hate.

The committee also shared questions around hosting Zoom meeting as we move away from the Covid emergency Executive order by the Governor. Select Board Chair, Emily Smith Lee shared some details on the status of Zoom meetings and her thoughts on the process. Mr. Kamocsay shared the idea of hosting a town event where the Greater Us would present to the community.

Topics Not Anticipated with 48 hours

The committee discussed the next meeting date. Committee members also shared that scheduling regular anticipated cadence of meetings would be helpful for schedules.

Adjourn

MOTION: (Kamocsay - Kondrath) To adjourn the meeting at 10:22 pm.

VOTED: 8-0-0 **PASSES**

Mrs. Wendy Alexis-Janvier	Yes
Lt. Stephen Coffey	Yes
Mr. Lajos Kamocsay	Yes
Zainab Mohammed	Yes
Ms. Ellie Zinno	Yes
Mrs. Kiana Pierre-Louis	Yes
Rev. Dr. Bill Kondrath	Yes
Ms. Marjorie Mitlin	Yes