**Weston DEI Advisory Committee**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Unapproved**

**April 12th, 2021 - 7:30pm**

**(by video conference)**

1. **Call to Order**: Chairperson Gillann Blunschi called the meeting to order at 7:40pm. In attendance were Gillann Blunschi, Martin Mohabeer, Denise Massingale-Lamb, Chris Razaki, Jasper Richardson; Samantha Nestor, Margaret Wirtenberg (Weston Today)
2. **Vacancy:** Due to resignations we need 3 more members. BOS are interviewing candidates. One person was interviewed. DEI can have only 7 members. These members can work with volunteers. Need balance of political affiliation.
3. **Senator Will Haskell**: Change date to meet with Sr. Haskell to May 3rd. Included in the agenda should be statewide issues, like a Karen’s law. Gillann to put out a proposed agenda for review. Jasper to investigate google docs and alerts when a document is added. Samantha will forward initiatives spearheaded by Sr. Haskell. Allow time for public comment. What can we do to help Sr. Haskell help us.
4. **Diversity Funding in Weston:**
5. **American Recovery** Act Money coming to Weston - $3M; water, sewage, broadband? how can this be distributed equitably. How is money being spent in the town.
6. Money coming to state from Transit Bill –
7. Westport Superintendent supported an Equity Audit (approximately $500K - $600K). Use what is going on in Westport as a proof of concept. DEI to prove that this could work. How are they doing this, where is the funding coming from. What is process they went through to get this done. How did they use best practices to get this done? Where did they get the money? What arguments were used? Passed 4 – 3. What materials were used? Look at scale, Westport is a bigger district. Create a recommendation, what is Easton and Wilton doing? Or Ridgefield.
8. Denise to check with Taffy Miller on funding options
9. We need town leadership of Weston to support financial requirements
10. **Reports by Directors**: Detailed reports at next meeting
    1. **Strategic Initiatives plan forward**
11. **Deliverables**:
    1. We would like to present a midyear status update to BOS tentatively in June 2021. Each “subcommittee” should make an effort to complete the project charter template which will then be summarized in a PowerPoint deck.
    2. Denise to check with Taffy Miller on funding options
    3. Denise to add google doc with training options
    4. Team to review Westport’s Equity Audit
    5. Team to forward recommendations / resume of people interested in applying to become a member
    6. Samantha to follow up on FOIA requirements regarding comments to public documents
    7. Samantha to double check if DEI Committee can take the lead / sponsor the George Floyd event.
    8. Martin to do one pager to forward to Samantha. How will this work? What is the overall goal, who will speak at this? Samantha will double check with Jonathan.
12. **George Floyd Event on May 25th.** 
    1. Unity / Community Building / Educational
    2. Bigger than George Floyd.
    3. Remember all names / tragedies

1. **New Business (Things to do/upcoming)**:
   1. Members to let the Committee to send email to group when document is added to google drive.
   2. Sustainable CT. summer session. No cost: registration required. Members to register. Virtual Equity Workshop Serious 12-4pm. Training, July 6th, August 17th, September 7th. Denise to research into 4 hours Free sessions with KJR.
   3. Denise to create spreadsheet on Google Drive training opportunities.
   4. Denise to identify contact at CT Center for School change. What is being shared with the school system.
   5. Anti-Racist training format to be adjusted, less quantitative more personal with more dialogue. Deck will be reduced.
   6. Jasper to send email to students regarding meeting with Senator Haskell.
2. **Adjournment**: Gillann Blunschi moved to adjourn @ 8:05pm. Chris Razaki seconded this. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by:

Gillann Blunschi