**Weston DEI Advisory Committee**

**Meeting with Sen. Will Haskell**

**May 3, 2021**

In Attendance:

Gillann Blunschi

Jasper Richardson  
Denise Massingale-Lamb

Martin Mohabeer

Samantha Nestor

Will Haskell

Numerous Public Attendees

1. **Call to Order**
   1. 7:02 pm
2. **Thank you/ Introduction of Committee**
   1. Mission statement read
3. **Introduction of Senator Haskell**
   1. Senator Haskell introduced by Gillann and himself. He underscored the importance of diversity.
4. **Goal of the meeting**
   1. Legislation currently on the table
      1. Police accountability bill that was passed last year
         1. More can be done, reach out if need be
      2. Zoning reform
         1. Renting out “accessory dwelling units” becoming a right statewide, town can set some limits
         2. Mandated training for Planning and Zoning board members
         3. Model zoning codes for the states to give towns on a volunteer basis
         4. Eliminates words “town character” from possible reasons why a town can block a development
      3. Voting rights
      4. Open choice for public schools
5. **Review of Weston DEI Initiatives**
   1. Much discussion of Walter Simpson, possible DEI initiatives in town that Will can support (police stuff)
6. **State Initiatives**
   1. Some state reforms were brought up. See 4.
7. **Public Comments**
   1. A number of clarifying questions were asked in regards to Mr. Simpson and other bills in part 4.
   2. Education reform was asked about
   3. Marijuana record expungement
   4. CREC Teacher residency program, turned down by Board of Ed. Would have made WPS staff more diverse.
   5. Current and former students discussed their racism in WPS
   6. Parent of Black alumni discussed police profiling and school profiling in Weston
   7. More students, current and former, discussed experiences,
   8. Steve Ezzes, BOF chair, proposed a town mailing about the George Floyd Memorial
8. **Senator Haskell left - 8:32**
9. **Public Comments continued - see 7**
10. **George Floyd Memorial - May 25th, 7pm**
11. **Meeting Ended at 8:58**