

**DIVERSITY COMMITTEE  
May 6, 2021**

**DIV20210506-1  
UNAPPROVED**

A meeting of the Diversity Committee of the City of Cedarburg, Wisconsin, was held on Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via zoom.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Erica Turner at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call:      Present:      Council Member Sherry Bublitz, Rev. John Norquist, Erica Turner, Dr. Joyce Caldwell, Kayla Stoflet, Blaine Gibson, Amit Kaul, Hayden Knight

Also Present:      City Administrator Mikko Hilvo

**STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE**

City Administrator Hilvo acknowledged that the agenda for this meeting was posted and distributed in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

**COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS**

Elizabeth Karrels introduced herself. She is working on a DEI project for Port Washington and looking at learning more about Peace in the Park since it would be nice to have one in Port Washington next year as well.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Council Member Bublitz to approve the April 1, 2021 minutes. Motion was seconded by Blaine Gibson and carried without a negative vote.

**INTRODUCTION OF CEDARBURG HIGH SCHOOL BRIDGE BUILDERS**

Annika Pricket introduced herself and provided information about the High School Bridge Builders. They are continuing to work on racism issues in the School District and hope to get information out to the public on these issues. The DEI committee thanked her for sharing her information with the group and welcomed the High School Bridge Builders to attend the regularly scheduled meetings.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Discuss Community Outreach Events; and Action Thereon**

Rev. Norquist shared more detail on the Truth and Reconciliation event(s). Discussion ensued on what the best approach to holding these events would be. Question was raised if the Diversity Committee should create a sub-committee for this. Discussion ensued. It was determined that the best approach would be to do this through the DEI committee instead. The first focus would be the Peace in the Park event. Further discussion on other truth and reconciliation events will be discussed at future meetings.

Kayla Stoflet shared information on the Peace in the Park event.

**Discuss Affordable/Workforce Housing; and Action Thereon**

Administrator Hilvo stated that he had attended a webinar on affordable/workforce housing and has begun conversations with a developer that has experience in affordable/workforce housing developments. Based on the information he has learned it might be difficult to qualify for this type of housing development through WHEDA (Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority) in Cedarburg. Dr. Caldwell shared the questions she had put together for local businesses that would help determine the need for workforce housing in our community. Administrator Hilvo stated it might be too early to send out this survey until we know if it is possible to develop affordable/workforce housing in Cedarburg. It was recommended that we get more detail from an experienced developer and see if they would be willing to present to the entire Committee on the City's ability to attract a developer for affordable/workforce housing at the next meeting.

**Discuss Community Education on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; and Action Thereon**

Discussion was had on various educational events. Hayden Knight recommended that his daughter, who does documentaries throughout the Country, could do one for the City of Cedarburg DEI Committee. The group thought it would be a great idea. Kayla Stoflet and Hayden Knight are planning a separate event at the Rivoli the night before the Peace in the Park event that will show DEI documentaries along with having conversations on Diversity, Education, and Inclusion. Council Member Bubnitz talked to the Library and they are willing to provide a room for regular meetings for further discussions on DEI. Erica Turner will continue to work with the Library on setting additional meetings/events at the library.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discuss Citizen Survey; and Action Thereon**

No new information to share.

**Review Date, Time, and Length of Diversity Committee Meetings; and Action Thereon**

Council Member Bubnitz asked if the Committee wants to meet in-person, zoom, or hybrid. The decision was made to start the hybrid format in June. Meetings will be held in the Council Chambers. Erica Turner asked about the date and time. It was the consensus to keep the same date and time for meetings.

**Identify Future Agenda Items; and Action Thereon**

The following items were discussed to be placed on a future agenda.

- 1) Sponsorship opportunities for Peace in the Park event

**REPORTS**

**Member Reports**

Erica Turner mentioned two webinars that Bridge the Divide will be hosting. The 2nd Annual Bridge Run (5K) will be held on July 10.

Dr. Joyce Caldwell will be doing a workshop on DEI. No dates set yet.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Council Member Bublitz, seconded by Dr. Caldwell, to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Mikko Hilvo  
City Administrator

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