

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMISSION MINUTES
7:00pm THURSDAY MAY 20th, 2021

* VIRTUAL MEETING *

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| X | David Martin, Chair | | Nathan Cookson, Clerk |
| X | Diane Randolph Jones, Vice Chair | X | Sunanda Pepalla |
| X | Leela Ramachandran | | Nassra Mgeni |
| X | Sandra Hinds | | Makena Muindi |
| X | Neha Saravanan (Associate) | X | Dawn Wang |
| | Julie Pierce Onos (Associate) | X | Charmaine Williams |
| X | Lingya Zhou (Associate) | | Odeviz Soto |

Called to order at 7:03

Regular Business

1. Notes from the chair

Special Business

2. Police Department Liason and other programs
 - 43 officers in Acton (3 women, 1 Latina woman, 1 Portuguese man, 1 Black) and 1 clinician, recently received state accreditation, 3 most prevalent calls are mental health/substance
 - Training: 9 hr. mental health/first aid training; 6 hr. fair & impartial policing training; 80% of department went through crisis intervention
 - They refer out to Domestic Violence Services Network (DVSND) and Jail Diversion Program
 - Will be posting a FT officer position soon
 - Det. Mike Eracleo: (978) 929-7711 or meracleo@actonma.gov; APD Business line: (978) 929-7711
3. Actions that we can take to address DEI in Acton – Neha
 - Desire to engage in more tangible initiatives than current surveys, statements, etc.
 - Perhaps reallocate funding from FT APD position that will be posted into a LICSW/clinician salary
 - Encouraging town to utilize all resources possible; mention of Masters students interning with LICSW
 - Dawn brought up legislation discussed at last meeting; perhaps outreach to ABRSD DEI Advisory Group
4. Plan for DEIC Select Board report
 - Will likely have data from survey by our next meeting
 - Engage in fluid conversation during the meeting to create general outline and ideas → individual(s) draft text of sections
 - Look into town statistician as we look forward to analyzing data

Closing Items

5. Approve minutes from previous meetings
 - Added “Associate” after Neha Saravanan’s name
 - Leela made motion, Dawn seconds; unanimously approved
6. Confirm future meetings and calendar events

7:00 THU 10 JUN meeting

7:00 THU 24 JUN meeting

7:00 THU 08 JULY meeting

7. Adjourn
 - Motion by Leela, Diane seconds; unanimously approved
 - Adjourned at 8:54 pm