

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Minutes

Wednesday, December 15, 2021 - 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.

Chair Patrick Miles called the regular meeting of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to order at 6:03 PM.

Members present: Hilary Brandt, Stephanie Brassington, Monica Bruce, Patrick Miles, Mona Nelson, Dave Pagenkopf, Edward Wreh, Angela Bazan

Members not present: Maya Thompson

Staff Present: Matt Schuenke, Stephanie Miller

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

- a. This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee. Please remember this is a virtual meeting conducted through the Zoom online meeting platform. Zoom meeting attendees wishing to address the board may do so using the Question and Answer feature within the Zoom online meeting platform. You may state your name, address, and provide your comments to the board for their consideration. Members of the public who are present in person and wish to address the board should fill out a public comment form and turn into the meeting chairperson. Members of the public may speak during public appearances or during their selected agenda item as they designate on the public comment form. Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit. Additionally, you may send your public comments to cassandra.suettinger@mcfarland.wi.us to be included as part of the meeting.*

No public appearances.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

- a. Discussion and action regarding the minutes of the meeting held on October 20, 2021.*
Motion by Member Dave Pagenkopf, seconded by Village Trustee Edward Wreh, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 20, 2021. Motion carries 8 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

4. BUSINESS.

- a. Introduction of new members.*
The DEI Subcommittee welcomed newest member, Angie Bazan, and did a round table of introductions.
- b. Discussion and action to set the calendar list of recognition items for the first quarter of 2022.*
Communications and Technology Director, Stephanie Miller, presented the recognition calendars for the first quarter of 2022.

Motion by Member Hilary Brandt, seconded by Member Dave Pagenkopf, to approve

the calendar list of recognition items for the first quarter of 2022. Motion carries 8 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

c. Discussion regarding the 2022 Budget related to diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.

Village Administrator, Matt Schuenke, provided an update regarding the 2022 budget and funding that will be directed toward DEI initiatives. He discussed how the budget is broken down and how various departments are adding in additional funds for training and support of DEI. The Board established funds of \$25,000 specifically to the subcommittee for 2022. Schuenke also mentioned that most boards and committees do not have their own line item in the budget, except for the Village Board.

d. Update on diversity, equity, and inclusion consulting work including the community event scheduled for January.

Schuenke discussed the initial plans for the January 31st community event. The event will be moderated by consultants, Dr. Rainey Briggs and Percy Brown starting at 6 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Waubesa Intermediate School. This event was indicated that it was going to be held in person.

The subcommittee continued to discuss and ask questions about the event, specifically the total number for attendance, how and when it will start to be advertised, if there can be a virtual option provided, if it will be recorded, and a backup plan in case there is overflow of attendance. Concern of hosting it at the school was mentioned and how we don't want the public to get this confused as a school event. Schuenke mentioned that the village doesn't have a space that could hold a large capacity of attendees, hence why the multi-purpose room was decided on as a location.

Subcommittee members showed concern about not offering a virtual option due to the pandemic. Members offered the idea of holding the event in a hybrid fashion or potentially offering in two ways, one virtual and one in-person.

Staff offered to bring these questions and concerns to the consultants and make plans after speaking with them.

The meeting planned for January 19th will be a joint meeting with the Village Board, as well as the consultants, who will present an update on their current work. There will also be discussion on making the subcommittee a standing committee.

e. Update on the process to create the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Standing Committee.

Schuenke provided a brief update on the current status of making the subcommittee a standing committee.

Trustee Edward Wreh commented on why he delayed moving forward with making DEI a standing committee, as he and Village Board members want to make sure that it isn't rushed because it's the right thing to do, but to make sure the proper time is taken so it can be sustained for the future.

Chair Patrick Miles commented on how the standing committee can assist with housing initiatives in the future.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

a. Wednesday, January 19, 2021 at 6:00 pm - Joint meeting with the Village Board.

b. Monday, January 31, 2022 at 6:00 pm - DEI Community Event

c. Requests for future agenda items.

No requests were made due to the full agenda planned for the January 19, 2022 meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Village Trustee Edward Wreh, seconded by Member Mona Nelson, to adjourn at 7:14 PM

Pursuant to law, written notice of this meeting was given to the public and posted on the public bulletin boards in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie R. Miller
Director of Communications and Technology