

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Minutes

Wednesday, July 21, 2021 - 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.

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 (arrived at 6:14 p.m.), Sean Chislom (left early at 7:25 p.m.), Patrick Miles, Mona Nelson, Dave Pagenkopf, Edward Wreh (arrived at 7:10 p.m.)

Members not present: Bridget Bell, Laetitia Hollard

Staff Present: Stephanie Miller, Matt Schuenke

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. *Motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2021 meeting.*
Motion by Member Dave Pagenkopf, second by Member Sean Chislom, to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2021 meeting. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

4. BUSINESS.

- a. *Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding a proposal for diversity, equity, and inclusion consulting services from Rainey Briggs and Percy Brown.*

Motion by Member Dave Pagenkopf, second by Village Trustee Stephanie Brassington, to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the revised proposal for diversity, equity, and inclusion consulting services from Rainey Briggs and Percy Brown. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

Subcommittee members did a roundtable pertaining to this item sharing their thoughts

for moving forward. Chair Miles mentioned resident concerns which he received regarding this topic.

- b. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the development of a calendar list that will offer expressions of support for daily/weekly/monthly recognitions of various populations, communities of interest, and/or organizations.

Motion by Member Dave Pagenkopf, second by Member Mona Nelson, to recommend to the Village Board that the subcommittee accepts calendar recognitions based on quarterly approval. Motion carries 7 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

Stephanie Miller presented an Excel spreadsheet that incorporated a plethora of daily, weekly, and monthly recognitions of various populations, communities of interest, and/or organizations. Overall reaction from the subcommittee was positive, but discussions of what to include, what not to include, avoiding holidays or not, will be discussed and determined at the August meeting. Additionally, the subcommittee wants a way for residents to provide feedback in some way in case the D.E.I. subcommittee misses a recognition. This is another way to involve more inclusivity within the Village.

Miller proposed to provide a better layout of the various recognitions for subcommittee members to look over prior to the August meeting and then decide. The August meeting will be a discussion about recognitions within the final quarter of the year, including the month of September.

The subcommittee plans to accept the quarterly calendar and recommend approval from the Village Board.

- c. Discussion of logistics and plan of action to implement future Town Hall-style meetings for public engagement.

Village Trustee, Ed Wreh, continued his discussion from the June meeting regarding future Town Hall-style meetings. The goal is to push those within the community to be more engaged, participate, collaborate, and be informed. This type of meeting would allow the public to bring feedback to the D.E.I. subcommittee, as well as staff that are present. The meeting would be similar to an open forum or open house, with no specific subject or agenda, but rather a way for community members to provide feedback and receive resources. Wreh encouraged the subcommittee members to think through logistics to bring to the next meeting and will be meeting with Village Administrator, Matt Schuenke, to plan next steps for the August meeting.

- d. Discussion to create a plan to partner with E.D. Locke Public Library to "Educate the Masses" based on the ACLU's "Know Your Rights" initiative.

This item was briefly touched on, but since Member Laëtitia Hollard was not present, the subcommittee did not discuss this in much detail. Miller and/or Schuenke to reach out to Hollard to discuss this item further and it was decided that it will be addressed at the August meeting.

- e. Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) membership update.

Miller provided a brief update on the Village's acceptance into GARE and included resources that are now available to Village staff and committee members.

- f. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board to establish the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee as a standing committee.

No recommendation was made.

The subcommittee decided that further research of various charges from other standing DEI committees are needed before making this recommendation to the Village Board. This agenda item is to be considered at another meeting.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

- a. Discussion of Hybrid Meetings 2.0.

Stephanie Miller provided an update on hybrid meetings starting August 2, 2021.

- b. Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 6 p.m.

- c. Requests for future agenda items.

Requests for the next agenda include:

- Further discussion of Town Hall-style meetings
- Quarterly calendar recognitions
- Further discussion to "Educate the Masses" and ACLU's "Know Your Rights" initiative
- An update regarding initiatives from the McFarland Equity Project (MEP) provided by Member Hilary Brandt

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Member Dave Pagenkopf, second by Village Trustee Stephanie Brassington, to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

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