

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Minutes

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 - 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.

Stephanie Brassington called the regular meeting of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to order at 6:00 PM in Community Room.

Members present: Stephanie Brassington, Edward Wreh, Monica Bruce (arrived at 6:10 pm), Mona Nelson, Miguel Pena.

Members not present: Angela Bazan, Ryli Brown

Staff Present: Administrator Matt Schuenke and DEI Strategist Krystal Johnson.

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

- a. This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for items that are not on the agenda. Please remember this is a hybrid meeting conducted in person and through the Zoom online meeting platform. Meeting attendees wishing to address the Committee about items not on the agenda may do so at this time. Zoom attendees should type their name and address in the Question and Answer feature within the Zoom online meeting platform at this time. Members of the public who are present in person and wish to address the Committee should fill out a public comment form and turn into the meeting chairperson. When you are called upon to speak, state your name, address, and provide your comments to the Committee for their consideration. Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit. Additionally, you may send your public comments to communications@mcfarland.wi.us to be included as part of the meeting.*

Members of the public may also speak during their selected agenda item as they designate on the public comment form or in the Question and Answer feature on Zoom.
None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

- a. Motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023 meeting.*
Motion by Stephanie Brassington, second by Edward Wreh, to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023 meeting. Motion carries 4 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

4. BUSINESS.

- a. Introduction of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Strategist for the Village.*
Krystal Johnson introduced herself as the new DEI Strategist for the Village. She provided a brief overview of her background and was excited to begin working for the Village as well as with the DEI Committee on many different important issues. She began in this role on January 16, 2024. No action was taken on this item.
- b. Discuss Opportunities for Community Outreach and Engagement.*
The Committee discussed various opportunities for engagement and outreach within the Community. There remains a desire for the Committee to get involved in more work that the Community does. There was discussion to pick a few events to start to think

about what their involvement could look like and work to bring forward more specifics. The DEI Strategist will take the feedback provided and review different opportunities to enhance involvement through out the year. No action was taken on this item.

c. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding definitions for the 2024 McFarland Observed Holidays.

Administrator Schuenke provided an update regarding the 2024 McFarland Observed Holidays that was previously approved by the Committee. The Village Board has since enacted the schedule but would like more definition around how it applies to holidays and events. Brassington provided background from the Village Board discussion on the topic and that the Committee can work on preparing definitions to include in the document for the board to consider. Staff will draft definitions and bring back to the next meeting for consideration. No action was taken on this item.

d. Discussion regarding a referral from the Village Board to begin board, commission, and committee meetings with a land acknowledgement.

Wreh requested that the item be rescinded from consideration as he's received additional feedback he wanted to consider with the request in light of other related initiatives that might be considered in the near future. No action was taken on this item.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

a. Monday, February 19, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Village Trustee Stephanie Brassington, second by Village Trustee Edward Wreh, to adjourn at 6:41 pm. Motion carried 5 - 0 - 0 by acclimation.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew G. Schuenke
Village Administrator