

**First Selectman's Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 12:00 pm**

<https://greenwichct.zoom.us/j/84470529609?pwd=VitLdGt5bkZEdFVIMFZXV2p0eWttZz09>

Or Dial 1 646 518 9805

Webinar ID: 844 7052 9609, Password: 4175839

**In Attendance:**

Fred Camillo, Garfield Charles, Pam Ehrenkranz, Karen Hasterok, Danielle Jean-Guillaume Sittol, Darian Jones, Dawn Kaam, Mary Lee Kiernan, Aimee Muth, Demetria Nelson, Bobby Walker, Jr.

**Call to Order:** Bobby Walker, Jr. 12:05pm

**I. Approval of December Minutes**

**II. Update on Common Circles**

- Bobby met with Molly King, hoped to determine interest of other independent schools.
  - Independent school budget cycle has ended, so financial commitment cannot be considered for 2022-2023 academic year.
- Logistics of the Installation
  - Installation can only exist in one place at one time, preferably for 6 to 8 weeks.
  - White Plains installation will occur in March.
  - Million-dollar installation, cost to committee is unknown.
    - Need to start engaging funders, get community buy-in.
    - Suggestions:
      - Conyers Farm,
      - Mimi Stern at Foundation House,
      - Bruce Museum,
      - Greenwich Library, and
      - Town Hall (concern about weekend visits).
    - Pam to speak to Marla to determine cost.
      - Will communicate committee's goal to engage different constituencies in the Town, including public and independent schools and community agencies.
  - Installation is not large, would be set up as museum exhibit.
    - Can fit in a 20' x 15' room.
    - Aimee will share a drawing of the installation.
  - Common Circles could supply docent, volunteers will assist in supervising, and managing visitors.

**III. Name of the Committee - discussion with Fred Camillo**

- First Selectman shared his goals for the committee, plans to engage regularly with group.
  - Reflected on the environment of the country and Town, wants group to be focused on civility and encourage and promote a positive narrative focused on togetherness.
    - Encourages more events like the socioeconomic panel.
    - Committee should be active and present in the community.
    - New name should celebrate diversity and equally celebrate what residents have in common.
  - Shared that legislative session will include controversial bills aimed at Greenwich and Fairfield County.
    - Committee should offer events beyond *feel good* activities but activities that promote the good in the community.
      - Highlight good work/achievements of businesses that do well and/or give back.
        - Consider showcasing and honoring the good work of groups.
      - Break free from social media and personal attacks.
  - Members are invited to share their ideas with First Selectman.

- First Selectman will support public statements made by FSDAC.
  - Committee members must agree that a public statement is an appropriate response to local, national, (or international) events.
  - Statements should focus on and celebrate people who are doing good work.
    - The statement may be perceived as political, but many not be motivated by politics.
- Committee Name
  - *First Selectman's Committee on Diversity and Community* suggested by First Selectman.
  - Other group name idea: *First Selectman's Committee on Diversity and Community Voices*.
    - First Selectman is open other suggestions by committee members.
  - Members want to ensure that committee will be able to offer programs that explore challenging and complex topics.
    - Members are encouraged to brainstorm future program ideas.

#### **IV. Announcements from Committee members**

##### **YWCA Greenwich**

- Annual Coretta Scott King and Dr. Martin Luther King event, Feb. 1
  - Conversation on climate justice in Connecticut.
  - Event inspired conversation about MLK Day programs in Connecticut.
    - Bobby serves on the State of Connecticut, Martin Luther King Junior Holiday Commission.
      - Most of this work is focused in the Harford area.
    - There are no notable events offered in Fairfield County, schools will acknowledge the day.
    - This committee may consider offering an MLK-inspired community program or service project next year.

##### **Family Centers**

- New program: Pathways to Employment Growth
  - Provides for individuals pursuing certification or training in the medical/healthcare field.
  - Support can include fees for training, stipends, transportation support, and child care.
  - Darian will send information to committee.

#### **5. Adjournment, 12:52pm**