

First Selectman's Diversity Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 12:00 pm

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

In Attendance:

Erin Crosby, Danielle Jean-Guillaume Sittol, Darian Jones, Mary Lee Kiernan, Dawn Kaam, Demetria Nelson, Bobby Walker, Jr., Ted Pardoe, David Rabin, Gaby Rattner

Call to Order

Bobby Walker, Jr. 12:05pm

1. Approval of Minutes from February 2022

Motion: Ted Pardoe, Seconded: Darian Jones

2. Update on Economic Diversity Panel

- Scheduled for Wednesday, May 18
- Program content and program participants are almost finalized
 - First Selectman Camillo, Representative Meskers, David Rabin, and an individual from Fairfield University will be on the panel
- Location still to be determined
- Promotional material/flyer has not been developed yet

3. Next Steps on Name Change/Mission Statement

- Bobby will plan to meet the First Selectman to discuss the committee's name change and membership

4. Update on Membership

- Bobby will continue to review the practices of other diversity committees in Connecticut
 - So far there is no standard membership policy of groups reviewed
 - Will review membership policies of Town committees
- This committee might consider developing a task force to develop a membership policy and to define expectations of members

5. Possible in-person meetings

- Groups discussed the pros and cons of in-person vs. virtual meetings
 - In-person is preferred
 - Transportation time and flexibility to attend more meetings in a day was mentioned when discussing the benefits of virtual meetings
 - We will prioritize in-person meetings but explore a hybrid/conference call format to increase opportunities to meet

6. Committee member updates and announcements

Youth Services

- Diversity Contest will be promoted at the end of April
 - Students will respond to an Elie Wiesel quote from his presentation, *The Perils of Indifference*
 - Art will be displayed at YWCA Greenwich
- Still working on plans for the award ceremony to take place in an afternoon
 - Hope to move this committee's May meeting to the afternoon for the ceremony

YWCA Greenwich

- Stand Against Racism, Friday, April 29, 12pm, at Town Hall
 - Part of the national stand of YWCA's across the country
 - The Fire Department will send a truck
 - Students will be awarded Racial Justice Scholarships
 - Poster in Town Hall will display the name of organizations and businesses in Greenwich who stand with YWCA Greenwich
- There will be an event event/panel during that week
 - The panel topic and program participants will be shared later
- Racial Justice Scholarship
 - Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are eligible
 - Students will be encouraged to nominate themselves
 - Community members/teachers can nominate youth

Family Centers

- RITE Program is offering in-person and virtual meetings to clients
- Darian is developing a workshop schedule to be shared next meeting
 - Support includes resume-building, interview skills, and budgeting and financial aid
 - Services are free
 - Support is provided to diverse clientele with diverse employment experiences

7. Next Meeting April 12, 2022

8. Adjournment: 12:34pm