

First Selectman's Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 12:00 pm

<https://greenwichct.zoom.us/j/84470529609?pwd=VitLdGt5bkZEdFVlMFZlV2p0eWttZz09>

Or Dial 1 646 518 9805

Webinar ID: 844 7052 9609, Password: 4175839

In Attendance:

Garfield Charles, Pam Ehrenkranz, Karen Hasterok, Danielle Jean-Guillaume Sittol, Darian Jones, Dawn Kaam, Aimee Muth, Demetria Nelson, David Rabin, Bobby Walker, Jr.

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

I. Approval of December Minutes

II. Common Circles impressions by attendees and next steps for possible Town adoption of exhibit

- Well received by committee members who visited.
 - Powerful display of people in the community, with different presentations/clothes/uniforms.
 - Inspires reflection on prejudice and bias.
 - Engagement with AI and “meeting” the survivor and liberator was moving.
 - The project must come to Greenwich!
- Challenges
 - Space
 - Must be approved by Greenwich Public Schools.
 - Must be approved by Greenwich Board of Education leadership.
 - We want to engage students, so a school site is ideal.
 - If the installation is not in a school, public school support will be required to encourage and facilitate trips with students in 6-12 grades.
 - Program can be integrated in the curriculum.
 - Installation could be offered at 2 different schools: GHS then a middle school site.
 - Other possible sites in the community: Greenwich Library, Bruce Museum, Christ Church, other sites accessible to the public.
 - Cost
 - Estimated cost is \$300,000.
 - Will pursue public/private partnership.
 - Pam is committed to fundraise for this project.
 - Must also consider fundraising transportation costs student visits.
 - Next steps
 1. Determine site(s).
 2. Promote and develop partnerships.
 3. Secure funding.

III. Follow up about Committee’s connection with presentation by UJA-JVC

- Invited Ambassador Deborah Lipstadt, Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism to come to Greenwich in September 2022.
 - Great public speaker.
 - Confirmed by the senate in March 2022.
 - Emory professor.
 - The committee will support the event.
 - UJA-JVC will cover costs associated with presentation but request a public space for the event.
- Request for committee logo to promote event.
 - Demetria will facilitate the creation of committee logo.
 - Will promote event in late August.

IV. Diversity Contest Update

- Not discussed.

V. Member Announcements

UJA-JVC

- **June 11, 5:30 pm**

- Partnering with Arch Street Teen Center to bring teen author, Suzette Sheft who wrote Running for Shelter: A True Story, her grandmother's survival story.
- Open to any teen in the community.

PTAC

- **Sunday, June 4, 1- 3pm**

- Greenwich Gay Pride event.
 - Bipartisan event.
 - Will include various speakers and activities for kids.

First Selectman's Youth Commission

- **Thursday, May 2, 6pm**

- *Discourse for Democracy.*
 - Motivated by concerns related to political polarization.
 - Panel will include various political perspectives and reflection on ranked-choice voting and open primaries.
 - Panelists: Congressman Jim Himes, First Selectman Fred Camillo, Forward Party member MaryFrances Metrick, and John Blankley.

Barbara's House

- **Thursday, June 1, 1 to 3pm**

- 4th Annual Walkathon
 - In-person and virtual options to participate.
 - Will meet at the field behind Town Hall.
 - Take a lap, jump rope, etc.

VI. Adjournment, 12:37pm