

CITY OF HUNTINGTON WOODS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ANTI-RACISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Huntington Woods Library

Beaulieu called the Meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

PRESENT: Katie Beaulieu, Daniel Dena, Betsy Kellman, Maria
LaLonde, Kia Essien

ABSENT: None

City Staff Present: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Essien and seconded by LaLonde to approve the January 12th
agenda as proposed.

Ayes: Essien, LaLonde, Dena, Beaulieu, and Kellman

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETINGS MINUTES

Moved by Essien and seconded by LaLonde to approve the December 15th
minutes as proposed.

Ayes: Essien, LaLonde, Dena, Beaulieu, and Kellman

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

ITEMS OF REVIEW

- a. Review of the Anti-Racism Plan
 - i. Mar recounted his understanding of how the Anti-Racism Plan was constructed. He raised criticisms of the plan because it does not adequately address diversified housing, and also fails to adequately address concerns over public safety. In particular, when it comes to public safety is the data purportedly showing an overrepresentation of BIPOC communities being pulled over and ticketed by Huntington Woods law enforcement.
 - ii. Kellman raised possibility of reaching out to Berkley school district to address educational concerns.
 - iii. Lalonde and Kellman raised issue of education. Mar raised concerns about preaching to the choir when it comes to educational events, raised concern that those attending were already likely to subscribe to anti-racist beliefs.
 - iv. Concerns raised by Beaulieu and all about the DEI survey data. At the last meeting, Wollenweber advised that we should be provided the data by this time, but we have still not received it.
 - v. Kellman expressed interest learning more about the expansion of Jewish community in the Woods
 - vi. Essien raised concerns about public school curriculum and detailed her efforts to address problematic school assignments her children were receiving. She noted that efforts have been slightly frustrated by change in superintendent. The school has also been challenged on its lack of diversity on hiring. Her group now meets with the Principal on a monthly basis to address needs. Essien's group sent letter last winter to address concerns over schoolwork curriculum.

- vii. Mar spoke to fact that Berkley High school is diverse, but that many programs are still all White or led by overwhelmingly White staff.
- viii. Lalonde raised that we should look to the city of Ferndale to learn from their work and progress
- ix. Mar raised reaching out to Rich Feldman, a community organizer in the Woods
- x. All agreed to try and identify ongoing efforts by individuals and small groups already trying to make the Woods anti-racist
 - 1. Lalonde would prioritize learning from Ferndale
 - 2. Beaulieu would work to get data on demographics and DEI survey
 - 3. Essien would reach out to her group regarding education concerns to determine what efforts need to be made
 - 4. Kellman would reach out to folks in the Jewish community and report back on why the Jewish community has grown and thrived in the Woods
 - 5. Dena would get pullover data from Mar to evaluate further.
- b. Committee Visioning and Goal Setting
 - i. All agreed to table until next meeting
- c. Committee Structure
 - i. All agreed to table until next meeting
- 2. Other Business
 - a. All agreed that we should be able to meet virtually due to the ongoing public health crisis caused by COVID-19.
 - b. Jamon Jordan identified as potential speaker for Juneteenth

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Essien, and seconded by Dena.

Ayes: Essien, LaLonde, Dena, Beaulieu, and Kellman

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried, meeting adjourned at 8:03PM.

Daniel Dena, Secretary

Kate Beaulieu, Chairperson