Stoughton DEI Task Force

First Organizing meeting April 7, 2022 6:30pm on Zoom

Attending: Amanda Burian, Amanda Potratz, Dayna Verstegen, Dee Roberson, Denise Rosby, Donald Rosby, Jean Ligocki, Linda Schaefer, Mary Bergeson-Gallun (and Tess Bergeson-Gallun), Michelle VanMatre-Keis, Renee Wilberg, Sarah Esmond, Sharon Meilahn-Barrett, Will Clifton and Mayor Tim Swadley (for Introductions and Gratitude)

Land Acknowledgement

Introductions: tell us about yourself and a DEI experience that brought you wisdom, hope and/or challenge? And please share what motivates you to be a part of this group

Basics and grassroots organizing

- Gratitude for you being here
- We are empowered to create a DEI Strategic Plan and to hold events/opportunities over the next two years by the City Council
- We are a grassroots collective intending to work from the ground up
    - Independent of City Council and not required to follow Robert's Rules of Order/Parlimentary procedure; yet will be updating Community Affairs/Council Policy approximately every 4-6 months
    - Will keep summaries of our meetings (similar to minutes noting date/time, participants, issues discussed, tasks completed and the like)
    - Planning to market/notice our meetings once organized
    - Keeping appointments by Mayor open for now; we welcome anyone committed to DEI principles and social justice and have encouraged the Mayor to appoint anyone who completes an application
    - Suggestion of establishing groundrules (5-7ish) to guide our communication
        - Please come to next meeting with your offering of effective groundrule(s)
- Only offer to do what you can do; we want to engage your strengths & skills well

Review of Resources/Questions

- Not everyone received the StoDEI Task Force Working Document; e-mailing out again
    - Start looking at other community's strategic plans and webpages in the working document noting what you like and don't like
    - Not an inclusive list; please e-mail Jean the links to any new strategic plans/webpages you are aware of/come upon that appeal to you
- Beginning discussion of formulating a strategic plan and our structure
- Do we need/want a budget vs. being on a shoestring?
    - ARPA funds, grant writing (Amanda P), fundraisers?
    - The Undivided t-shirts available for sale? Beyond the 70 (!!!!!) group members?
- Open Meetings Law applicable? City Attorney Dregne indicated we are an independent body established by Council; Jean will review with Attorney Dregne/Mayor Swadley by e-mail

Structuring Ourselves/Scope

- Briefly discussed; should we establish a Strategic Plan Core Group?
- Will our scope include Stoughton Area School District (formally/informally)?

Upcoming Events

- Syttende Mai Table May 13th & 14th (Friday evening & Saturday)
    - Collaboration with Eyes of Hope/Girl2Girl, Mosaicos, SRAP, The Undivided, StoDEI?
    - Is it fully staffed?
    - Space or another table for BIPOC and other historically marginalized businesses?
- Bike Rodeo June 3rd Friday evening 5-7pm
    - Kegonsa Elementary
    - Does Yoli need volunteers/resources?
- Juneteenth/Pride Month Celebration Sunday June 19th
    - Chorus Public House secured
    - Early planning stages

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 13th 6:30-8pm on Zoom

Potential meeting items:
- Groundrules
- Monthly meeting as a whole
- Review of resources
- Structuring ourselves/scope
    - Events
    - Strategic Plan
- Funding
- Goals & Mission