

Town of Fairfax  
Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee (RESJ)  
Special Meeting  
Via teleconference due to COVID-19  
Thursday, December 3, 2020

Committee member Hellman called the Special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order/Roll Call:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Patrece Bryan  
Veronica Geretz  
Amal  
Tayu Neogy  
Griselda Hernandez  
Serena Campbell  
Daria Sievers  
Alexandra Rosem  
Lisel Blash  
Layli Shirani  
Sophia Martin  
Stephanie Hellman (Councilmember)  
Bruce Ackerman (Councilmember)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Sophia M.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Garrett Toy, Town Manager  
Anne Mannes  
Lisa Jimenez, Facilitator

Approval of Agenda and Affidavit of Posting

M/s, Rosem/Sievers, to approve the Agenda and Affidavit of Posting.

Ayes: All

Absent: Sophia M.

Regular Agenda

1. Conduct the second meeting of the RESJ Committee to discuss/consider the following general topics (order and time approximate) and take action as appropriate:
  - A. Opening
    - Framing Agenda and Outcomes

Facilitator Jimenez supported a deeper Land Acknowledgement.

- RESJ Purpose
- Norms
- Meeting Roles

Facilitator Jimenez presented several slides and asked for a member to read the RESJ purpose and norms and asked for volunteers for the roles.

#### B. Overview of Brown Act

Town Manager Toy gave a summary of the Brown Act. He answered questions regarding the difference between a Regular and Special Meeting and the definition of a Serial Meeting.

#### C. Policing Subcommittee Formation

- Form Subcommittee

Facilitator Jimenez gave a brief report.

Committee member Hellman asked for a show of hands for volunteers. Committee members Ackerman, Geretz, Rosem, Bryan, and Sievers volunteered.

Facilitator Jimenez opened the meeting to public comments.

Debra (Dee Lee) Benson, Cascade Drive, asked about the intent of the subcommittee and the kind of role it will play.

Joe McGarry supported the RESJ and the subcommittee and felt that working towards diversity without taking care of anti-racism is setting up harm.

Facilitator Jimenez closed the meeting to public comments.

M/s, Rosem/Bryan, to establish the Policing Subcommittee of the RESJ Committee.

Ayes: All

Absent: Sophia M.

The Policing Subcommittee consists of Committee members Ackerman, Sievers, Geretz, Rosem, and Bryan. Facilitator Jimenez stated the subcommittee would decide on when to hold meetings and the scope of work.

#### D. RESJ Focus Area Discussion

- Continue brainstorming focus areas
- Discussion
- Next Steps

Facilitator Jimenez presented a report and asked the Committee members to use Jamboard. She asked the committee to decide on the top three priority focus areas. These included policing, community/public education, affordable housing, Town policies, accessibility, listening sessions, history, training and hiring of Police, community engagement, transportation, and access to open space. The Committee put the focus areas into the following groups/themes: 1) Town policy; 2) Engagement; 3) Education; 4) Housing; 5) Policing; 6) Anti-racism.

Facilitator Jimenez stated the committee could form subcommittees to work on the themes.

#### E. Training and Retreat Planning

- Preview Retreat and Training Agenda

Facilitator Jimenez reported the first part of the morning will be the retreat which will be open to the public. They will decide on the committee norms. The training part will be a deep dive into what racial equity means, self-reflection, and high performance teams.

The committee discussed having about six over-arching values that affect all of the committee work as opposed to values for each committee.

- Form Mission and Vision Subcommittee

Committee member Hellman presented a report.

Facilitator Jimenez opened the meeting to public comment.

There were no comments.

Facilitator Jimenez closed the meeting to public comment.

M/s, Bryan/Geretz , to form a Mission and Vision Ad Hoc Subcommittee of the RESJ Committee that will consist of Committee members Neogy, Hellman, Geretz, Hernandez, and Amal.

Ayes: All

Absent: Sophia M.

- Questions and Comments

There were none.

#### F. Public Comment

There were no comments.

#### G. Next Meeting

- Establish Regular Meeting Time/Day

Facilitator Jimenez opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Facilitator Jimenez closed the meeting to public comments.

M/s, Blash/Sievers, to meet every first Thursday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Ayes: All

Absent: Sophia M.

- Items for next meeting

Facilitator Jimenez stated the following items will be on an upcoming agenda: 1) Prioritizing the Jamboard issues; 2) Subcommittees reports.

- Appreciations
- Closing comments

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni DeFrancis, Recording Secretary