

Town of Fairfax
Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee (RESJ)
Special Meeting
Via teleconference due to COVID-19
Sunday, December 6, 2020

Facilitator Jimenez called the Special meeting to order at 9:30 a.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)

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

Approval of Agenda and Affidavit of Posting

The committee approved the agenda and the Affidavit of Posting.

Regular Agenda

1. Conduct retreat of the RESJ Committee to discuss/consider the following general topics (order and time approximate) and provide direction to the facilitator, as needed.

- A. Opening
- Framing Agenda and Outcome
 - Meeting Roles

The committee discussed the above topics.

- B. Community Agreement Development
- Team development
 - Reflection
 - Community agreement synthesis

Facilitator Jimenez gave a PowerPoint presentation and asked the group to share two minute dyads.

Facilitator Jimenez briefly discussed relational community agreements or “ways of being with each other”. She asked the committee to write down the five most important relational norms and they came up with the following: true listening, willing to risk, be engaged, trust in each other in the process, be open to change, don’t “yuk” my “yum”, there are no wrong answers, the right to pass, kindness, non-judgmental, fair, considerate, forgiving, chance to speak, do not interrupt, allow mistakes, respectful challenging, do not take things personal, confront racism, respectful listening, share air time, do not speak for others, use levity and humor, no over talking, step up- step back, meaningful consensus, openness to possibilities, risk taking, holding space for the different backgrounds, listening to understand, “not up for debate”, use “I” statements, personal accounts are true, provide context, humanity, compassion, and welcoming somatic reflection. She recommended returning to the idea of a collective consolidation of the norms at a future meeting.

C. Public Comments

There were no comments.

D. Next Meeting

- Appreciations
- Closing Comments

The committee took a break at 10:50 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 12:05 p.m. to discuss systemic oppression and receive some team development training.

The meeting adjourned in the afternoon.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni DeFrancis
Recording Secretary