

Town of Fairfax
Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee (RESJ)
Regular Meeting
Via teleconference due to COVID-19
Thursday, May 6, 2021

Committee member Rosem called the Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order/Roll Call:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Veronica Geretz
Tayu Neogy
Griselda Hernandez
Alexandra Rosem
Lisel Blash
Sophia Martin
Stephanie Hellman (Councilmember)
Bruce Ackerman (Councilmember)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Anne Mannes, Staff member
Lisa Jimenez, Facilitator

Approval of Agenda and Affidavit of Posting

M/s, Geretz/Hernandez, to approve the agenda and affidavit of posting.
Ayes: All

Regular Agenda

1. Conduct the meeting of the RESJ Committee to discuss/consider the following general topics and take action as appropriate:
 - A. Opening
 - Land Acknowledgement
 - Assign meeting roles
 - Norms and reflection on team dynamics

Committee member Neogy volunteered to serve as the process observer and Committee member Blash volunteered to be the timekeeper.

Committee member Hellman stated she would be stepping down from the Committee.

Committee member Ackerman stated Committee member Hellman would still be able to work with the ad hoc committees.

- B. Ad Hoc Mission and Vision Report Out
 - Discussion of draft mission and vision
 - Action Item: Consider approval of mission and vision statements

Facilitator Jimenez asked the Committee to provide input.

Sub committee member Geretz stated the Committee previously provided some edits which were incorporated into the draft document.

The Committee provided some suggested edits.

Facilitator Jimenez opened the meeting to public comments.

Patrece Bryan stated she is disappointed with the document- it should not be about emotions but rather what they intend to do and why. The "Background" Section should be deleted.

Facilitator Jimenez closed the meeting to public comments.

M/s, Geretz/Martin, to approve the Mission and Vision Statement as amended.

Ayes: All

C. Report Out

- Policing Subcommittee

Sub committee member Rosem gave a report.

- Community Education Subcommittee

Sub committee member Hernandez gave a report.

- Policy Subcommittee

Sub committee member Blash gave a report.

Facilitator Jimenez opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Facilitator Jimenez closed the meeting to public comments.

D. Budget Discussion

- Discussion about budget requests for RESJ 2021-2022
- Develop draft budget proposal for Town Council
- Action Item: Consider approval of budget items for TC budget planning

Committee member Ackerman presented a report.

The Committee provided feedback.

Committee member Rosem stated she would like to get a stipend to Chair the PPPSA.

Each Committee member discussed budget priorities.

Facilitator Jimenez opened the meeting to public comments.

Patrece Bryan did not support spending taxpayer's money towards this committee.

Joe McGarry supported the RESJ and felt they should not worry about the cost of the work product.

Naomi Alessandro supported the priorities and the forward thinking budget.

Facilitator Jimenez closed the meeting to public comments

M/s, Martin/Neogy, to approve the budget request which includes facilitation, a survey, a grant, community education, and racial covenant.

Ayes: All

E. Public Comment- Items on the Agenda

Facilitator Jimenez opened the meeting for comments on items on the agenda.

Joe McGarry discussed the Mobile Crisis Team in Marin County.

Naomi Alessandro asked the Committee to invite speakers from other communities that are doing equity work.

Facilitator Jimenez closed the meeting for comments on items on the agenda.

F. Public Comment- Items not on the Agenda

Facilitator Jimenez opened the meeting for comments on items not on the agenda.

Patrece Bryan thanked certain Committee members.

Facilitator Jimenez closed the meeting for comments on items not on the agenda.

G. Next Meeting

- Next steps review
- Process Observation report out.
- Appreciations

Staff member Mannes listed the next steps.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni DeFrancis
Recording Secretary