

Fairfax Town Council Minutes
Special Meeting
Via teleconference due to COVID-19
Wednesday, September 2, 2020

Mayor Goddard called the **Special Meeting** to order at 5:30 p.m.

Call to Order/Roll Call:

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Ackerman
Barbara Coler
Renee Goddard
Stephanie Hellman
John Reed

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Garrett Toy, Town Manager
Michele Gardner, Town Clerk
Janet Coleson, Town Attorney

Approval of Meeting Agenda and Affidavit of Posting

M/S, Coler/Reed, Motion to approve the Affidavit of Posting and the agenda as submitted.
AYES: Ackerman, Coler, Hellman, Reed, Mayor Goddard

Regular Agenda (Special Meeting)

1. Adopt a Resolution forming the Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee-
Town Manager

Town Manager Toy presented the staff report.

Councilmember Hellman had a question about the recommendation for a one-year term.

Town Manager Toy stated staff was unclear whether or not this would be a permanent Committee.

Councilmember Coler confirmed the Council should adopt the resolution with a definitive number of members.

Councilmember Reed suggested the possibility of expanding the membership of the Committee.

Mayor Goddard opened the meeting to public comments.

Ms. Deborah Benson noted the resolution did not mention the \$100,000 budget for this Committee. She opposed giving members of this Committee a stipend unless the same was done for all the Boards, Committees, and Commissions.

Ms. Daria Sievers stated she was concerned about the impact expanding the membership might have on efficiency.

Mr. Chance Cutrano stated he was concerned about the impact expanding membership might have on achieving a quorum.

Mayor Goddard closed the meeting to public comments.

Councilmember Coler stated she supported a Committee of eleven members, including one or two non-voting youth members, and starting off with a one-year term limit. Facilitator would be included as part of the \$100,000, budget. She agreed about the concern about obtaining a quorum

Councilmember Ackerman stated he supported eleven members, plus two youth members, and two Councilmembers. He agreed about the concern about obtaining a quorum, and also scheduling meetings. He asked if the Committee would establish bylaws that would include the maximum number of meetings a member may miss and remain on the committee.

Councilmember Hellman supported eleven members, two Councilmembers, and two youth members. She supported one-year terms initially. She assumed it was a permanent Committee. She noted they would not spend the entire budget on consultants.

Councilmember Reed supported the eleven members, two Councilmembers, and two non-voting youth, one-year terms initially, and having the bylaws include the maximum number of meetings a member may miss.

Mayor Goddard agreed with the other Councilmembers.

M/S, Hellman/Coler, Motion to adopt a Resolution forming the Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee.

AYES: Ackerman, Coler, Hellman, Reed, Mayor Goddard (through a roll call vote)

The Council took a five-minute break at 6:20 pm.

2. Selection and appointment of applicants to the Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) Committee- Town Manager

Town Manager Toy presented the staff report.

Mayor Goddard opened the meeting to public comments, and seeing none, closed it.

Mayor Goddard closed the meeting to public comments.

Town Manager Toy explained the voting process would include four rounds, with the highest vote getters in each round moving to the next round.

The Council voted on each applicant when their name was read aloud by the Town Clerk. The vote was recorded and tallied prior to moving to the next round. The process for four rounds of voting.

M/S, Coler/ Reed, Motion to appoint the following individuals to the Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) Committee: Daria Sievers, Veronica Geretz, Layli Shirani, Patrece Bryan, Lisel Blash, Tayu Neogy, Amal Jamal, Griselda Hernandez, Zianah Griffin, Alexandra Rosen, Serena Campbell, Sophia Martin (Youth position), and Sophia Mottershead (Youth position).

AYES: Ackerman, Coler, Hellman, Reed, Mayor Goddard (through a roll call vote)

Mayor Goddard adjourned the special meeting at 7:10 pm.