

Community Relations Council  
Minutes  
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom  
May 14, 2020  
6:00-7:00 PM

**Attending:** Ayana Crawford, Carlo Dawson, Cynthia Ware, Dale Johnson, Darryl Cunningham, Gigi Anderson, Isaiah Venning, Jessica Yang, Robert Karkoski, Shekinah Miller, Sierra Hughes, Summersby Okey

**Visitors:**

**City Staff:** Jason Weil

**Not Attending:** Rachel Lillibridge

*Purpose: To promote respect, appreciation and understanding of diversity among all people in our community by promoting positive human relations and reducing discrimination, assessing and responding to the human relations needs of our community, serving as a source of information, and advocating and recognizing change to achieve our mission.*

- I. Call to Order/ Review of Purpose/ Moment of Silence
  - Called to Order at 6:02 PM
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - Minutes are approved unanimously with no changes.
- III. New Business
  - A. Reports from sub-committees
    1. Black History sub-committee
      - a) No update at this time.
    2. Teacher Supply Drive
      - a) No update at this time.
      - b) Ayana said she is willing to step down if someone else is passionate about heading up this project.
    3. MLK sub-committee
      - a) Start sending names for speaker nominations to Jason and copy GiGi and Cynthia.
      - b) Darryl has already sent two names.
      - c) The deadline for nominations is our July meeting so that we can vote by the August meeting.
      - d) The sub-committee will meet to discuss the theme and honorarium for speakers.
    4. Newsletter
      - a) Keep sending submissions to Ayana and Jessica.
      - b) All committee members are asked to submit one piece for the newsletter, if possible.
      - c) Jessica will write the next article.
      - d) Past topics include- icebreakers, finances, education.

- e) Members are asked to write a “blog like” piece on something they are experienced or interested in.
- f) The goal is to get folks to “ focus on the good”.
- g) Please share the newsletter on Social Media when it comes out.

#### B. Film Festival

- Dr. Aimee Meader is interested in incorporating a film festival in her courses for Fall 2020.
- We may need to explore a virtual option - just in case classes are virtual in the fall.
- Roll into Race Equality Week
- A “drive-in” movie type option may be available on Winthrop’s Campus. This is an idea to explore.

#### C. Financial Literacy

- The City wants us to talk about what we can do to improve the financial literacy of people in our city.
- Greenville had financial literacy centers where citizens can come and learn.
- HNS and CRC could partner on this.
- UWYC may be available to partner as well.
- B.E.L.L. would be a good potential partner as well.
- Reggie seems like a good fit for this initiative. The committee will reach out to him regarding his interest.

#### D. Committee Signup

- See attached document.

#### E. Race Equality Week

- Summersby will reach out to the sub-committee to set up all sub-committee meetings for the year. We will talk about the ability to make an impact without large, in-person events that may be impossible.

### IV. Old Business

#### A. Summer Retreat

- Though it may not be as effective in person, the committee feels it will be safer to go ahead and plan for a virtual retreat to be respectful of the various-risk folks on our committee.
- Retreat Goal: team bonding, learning about philosophies, drives, passions, and purpose. Come up with yearly goals.
- Volunteers will help plan an effective online retreat. Please text or email Carlo if you are interested in helping. Ayana does this type of work and is happy to facilitate and help host virtual team building games.

#### B. Announcements and Concerns

- Jessica suggested that there may be a place where the CRC would fit in to address health disparities facing communities of color in

the face of COVID-19. The committee suggested doing a column in the newsletter on this topic.

- Dale commented that the information is not really getting to the people who need it and we need to think about that as we are putting out information.
- Possibly we could make this part of the REW agenda.
- Shekinah will bring this up at the next IMPACT York County meeting. They may be a natural partner on this initiative. They are already doing work in this area in York County.
- Jason saw a great example put out by the Levine Museum. We could possibly use this as a framework to do something similar.
- NPHC has done a series on COVID-19 and Isaiah will share the link with the group. We could link to this in the newsletter.

C. City Announcements

- The City is not really sure when they will be open again for group meetings. They are doing their best to minimize the spread.

V. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

*The next monthly CRC meeting will be held Thursday, June 11, 2020 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm, at Housing & Neighborhood Services (hopefully).*