

Dennis Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee

Monday, 02.06.2023

Attendees

Kristina Caterino
Emily Entwisle
Tamora Israel
Larry Johnson
Kate Martin

Guests

Wayne Bergeron

Agenda

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. DDEI committee is committed to work on an outline for open forum meetings.
 2. Tamora Israel will reach out to Mashpee Inclusion and Diversity Committee Chair, J Marie Stevenson, to inquire about organizing listening sessions and any information on the open forum process. The questions DDEI has for Stevenson are: Why don't people go to town meetings? Is her committee aware of any open meeting forums on Cape Cod that DDEI could reach out to? What to avoid when creating an open meeting forum?
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New Business

3. Kate Martin moved to approve the last meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Tamora Israel. The committee voted and the motion passed.
4. Guest Wayne Bergeron was invited to the meeting by Co-Chair Larry Johnson.
5. Co-Chair Larry Johnson contacted Dennis Police Captain William Monahan to discuss being the liaison for the DDEI, because of his connection to the town. Captain Monahan informed Co-Chair Larry Johnson that he is not able to be the liaison for personal reasons.
6. Co-Chair Larry Johnson contacted Lieutenant Peter Benson about getting a police liaison who is involved with the community.
7. Co-Chair Larry Johnson was unable to get on the schedule of Dennis/Yarmouth High School Assistant Principal, Cheryl Greenon.
8. Co-Chair Larry Johnson proposed that Wayne Bergeron assist the committee with putting together an operation budget for the DDEI committee. Co-Chair Emily Entwisle seconded the motion. The committee voted and the motion approved unanimously.

Notes

- Guest Wayne Bergeron spoke of what a Town Select Person liaison does and how they support a committee. They are there to help the committee navigate to its agenda.
- Wayne Bergeron will look into the DDEI getting an official town committee email instead of the gmail that DDEI has now.
- Wayne Bergeron suggested the DDEI committee create a budget that the committee needs to operate, the reasons for the budget. Put the budget request in writing and send it to the town administrator and the committee liaison. The American Rescue Plan Act might have funds left to add to the committee's budget.
- Wayne Bergeron suggested the DDEI committee bring the budget request presentation to the Select Board.
- Kristina Caterino updated DDEI about the committee's facebook page. She will work on inviting people to the page.

- Kristina Caterino offered to print flyers for the committee. The committee suggested flyers be printed at the Dennis library, or the Cape Cod Community Media Center.
- Wayne Bergeron suggested the committee invite Hyannis NAACP President, Lynne Rhodes, to DDEI meetings.
- The committee will create an operating budget for this listening session.
- Proposed dates for the DDEI listening sessions are May 4, 11, 18.
- Co-Chair Emily Entwisle motioned to move the question, presentation topic, and preliminary draft of the listening session to the next meeting. Co-Chair Larry Johnson seconded the motion.
- Pracilla Manning from the Dennis Democratic Town Committee invited the DDEI committee to their meeting on March 20th.
- Kate Martin motioned the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Tamora Israel.

Action Items

1. The committee will work to bring questions for the next meeting, presentation topic, and preliminary draft of the proposed listening session.
2. Co-Chair Larry Johnson will contact Congressional churches about using their space.
3. Co-Chair Emily will email the library in Dennis about renting their space for a listening session.

Next Meeting Agenda Items

Next DDEI committee meeting is March 6, 2023.