

TOWN OF DENNIS
DENNIS DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE
MEMBERSHIP AND CHARGE

The Dennis Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee shall promote, embrace, and support the cultural enrichment of Dennis' diverse population as an important element of a healthy and vibrant community.

The Dennis Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee shall endeavor to:

- Provide a welcoming environment by encouraging cooperation, trust, and respect among all and by all persons who live or visit the Town.
- Strive for a community characterized by inclusion defined as actively pursuing goals of including, integrating, engaging, and welcoming; all persons regardless of their race, color, ethnicity, immigration status, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, pregnancy status, or genetic information.
- Foster civic engagement and mutual respect for the contributions that every individual or group makes toward community goals.
- Support or suggest programs or activities that educate and promote a culture of tolerance and respect.

The Committee shall be comprised of a diverse group of seven (7) professionals and community members. Members shall be appointed to staggered three-year terms except the high school student who shall be appointed to a one (1) year term and alternates who shall be appointed to a two (2) year term. One member of the Select Board, one member of the police department and one member of the fire department shall serve as liaisons to the Committee. Initial membership terms are as follows:

- 1 member representing housing advocacy - two years
- 2 members from the community that are racially or culturally diverse – three years
- 1 member-at-large from the Dennis community – two years
- 1 member from the Council on Aging staff or committee (appointed by the Council on Aging Director) – two year
- 1 member from Wixon or Ezra Baker Schools staff (appointed by the principal) -three years
- 1 Dennis resident high school student (appointed by the Superintendent of Schools) – one year
- 1 alternate from the community – one year
- 1 alternate from the community – two year

Vacancies shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term.

The Committee shall identify and make recommendations to the Select Board on resources and programs that may be implemented and or supported by the Town of Dennis to develop diversity as a strength in our community. As our nation becomes more diverse it is important that the Town provides opportunities for all people to contribute. The committee shall work locally and regionally to achieve their goals.

The committee shall meet as often as necessary in accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law. Committee members shall be mindful of their attendance obligations at committee meetings as identified the Town of Dennis Select Board Guiding Principles.