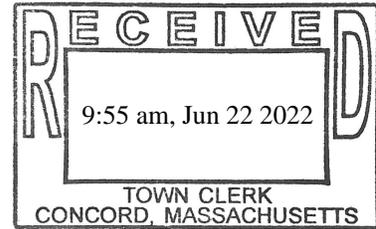


CONCORD DEI COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 25th, 2022 7:00pm One-line Zoom Meeting



Commission members in attendance:

Andrea Foncerrada
Ji Orloff
Rose Cratsley
Ha Richmond
Robert Munro
Kristen Hagerty

Members of the public in attendance:

Cynthia Rainey (80 Hunters Ridge Rd, Concord)
Erin Fife (174 Hill Street, Concord)
Tanya Gailus (62 Prescott Rd, Concord)

1. Approval of Minutes 2/7

2/7 Minute was approved by all the Commission members.

2. CPS and Metco conversation

Commission members discussed what the DEI Commission's position should be regarding the recent CPS and Metco conversations and events and what approach the Commission should take. After some discussion during which Commission members expressed their views, a Commission member then quoted the Commission's responsibilities stated on the charge and highlighted how providing a response fell within our responsibilities and filed a motion to file a formal response before the school committee as a Commission. Commission members then voted on issuing a response. After the vote, members then discussed the format of the response and decided on a letter. The Commission agreed to revise the content of the letter in their next meeting and agreed that the content of the would outline in relation to the charge we have as a Commission. The Commission clerk was assigned with the task to provide a first draft of the letter.

A member of the public, commented that Concord residents and METCO participants are one community and should be treated as such. Therefore, the Commission may want to endorse the demands of the METCO parents, rather than see it as a School Committee vs METCO matter to reconcile.

A member of the Commission suggested we as a Commission attend Concord's Race Amity day, on Sunday June 12th and described that the event is co-hosted by Andrew Nyamekye, the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Concord and Concord-Carlisle school districts and the Concord Race Amity Day committee.

3. Subcommittee updates

a. Education subcommittee

A member of the Commission shared that the education subcommittee members have not been able to meet with the Superintendent and the DEI director. The member also informed the Commission that the Superintendent and the DEI director after declining to meet, directed us to the subcommittee which has now been dissolved.

b. Climate survey update

A member of the Commission presented a first draft of the proposed questionnaire and gave a detailed presentation of its content. The draft is attached.

3. Climate Justice Nexus update

A member of the Commission met with the Director of Sustainability for the Town of Concord and discussed the possibility of collaborating with USDN (Urban Sustainability Directors Network) on a project to promote equity and sustainability in the town. The USDN plan called for equity training for Commission members as well as town employees by USDN, without a clear commitment or example of what that training would involve. At this time, the Director of Sustainability felt that the town was not able to commit the resources without a clearer picture of the objective.

4. Concord's coalition to build community meeting

A member explained what the coalition is and what its objectives were and how the coalition had expressed interest in finding out how they could work with us. Specifically, a member of the public mentioned the Coalition is interested in working with the DEI Commission on bringing training on DEI matters to Concord.

5. Terms expiring

The Commission members were informed that there were two commission members' terms that had expired and who had decided not to go back up for nomination for another term. A member suggested we write a thank you note to the three members who have left.

Public discussion

A member of the public thanked the committee and said it was a moving discussion.

Next meeting

The next meeting was proposed to be held either virtually or in-person in June. Members discussed the convenience and importance to set monthly times to meet.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.