

Diversity & Inclusion Email Update to Committee Members - May 11, 2019

From Khamla Erskine

All,

I wanted to provide an update on some of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee activities this past week.

I. Village Board Meeting - I am planning to attend the Village Board meeting on May 13 with a proposal of committee activities, to provide an update on our organizational structure and to secure the funding that was originally allocated for the festival to be used for the speaker series.

II. Membership Changes

- Due to work commitments, Kristen will be focusing on the school engagement group and Evan will be providing event assistance as needed.

- Jodi Epstein has been appointed by Mayor Pugh to the Committee. Welcome Jodi!

II. Festival Committee & Speaker Series

We (Khamla, Andy, Tamara, Ross) agreed that given how new we are as a Committee, it makes sense to find our footing first and start with smaller events. As such, we will not have a festival this year. We would reassess holding the festival next year. Leo, Sherry and I discussed over email and we are all in agreement that this decision makes sense.

Instead we agreed to turn our focus on smaller events working through the Speaker series.

Heather and I met this morning and we propose the following:

1. Our target is to have three events this year

2. Our first event will be a community listening session on Thursday, June 22 at 7 pm. We will invite the community to join us in a discussion on their experience of being a diverse person in Croton, what more can be done to make the Croton Community a welcoming place for people living, working and visiting Croton.

- we are looking for a facilitator for this discussion, I have someone in mind who has helped other community groups

- location - I have reached out to Pastor Melissa at Asbury to see if we can use their room

- advertising - word of mouth, having a table at Summerfest, and potentially the Village website

- Heather will be publishing a meeting summary of our discussion

3. Heather has a great idea to do a multicultural event at the schools, apparently it was very successful last year. Heather will be reaching out to Kristen on the school group to discuss further.

II. School group

Kristen has kindly volunteered to facilitate this group. The School group met on Wednesday and Kristen will be publishing a meeting summary next steps.

III. Next General Meeting agenda

- next general meeting is on May 22 at 7:30 at the Municipal building
- we will review the mission statement document that I distributed last week and taking a vote on whether it accurately represents the goals of our committee
- please send me your agenda items by next Friday so that Danny can include it in meeting agenda

Thanks and have a great weekend!

Khamla