

Croton-on-Hudson Diversity and Inclusion Committee

June 22, 2021

Video Conference AGENDA

ZOOM DETAILS

Time: June 22, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88339204018?pwd=SE9zWFEvVkR4SlQvVThWVnFCcEhZQT09>

Meeting ID: 883 3920 4018

Passcode: 918955

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Diversity & Inclusion page on Village website: <https://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov/diversity-and-inclusion-committee>

MEMBERS: Chair: ~~Leo Wiegman~~

Co-Chair: Maria Modica-Snow

Tsui Pappas Amy Melman Lisa Stefanoff Michael Mui	Jessica Ganus Aliyah Simpson Justin Johnson	VILLAGE TRUSTEES: Sherry Horowitz
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1. Introduction and Opening Business

a. Health and Welfare check of members

b. Introduction of Guest, Gwen Sergeant, who told us a bit about herself and her career, and then explained to us the work she is doing with the Ossining Chapter of the NAACP with enrichment programs for children, teens and young adults. It was very interesting and Gwen promised to keep us informed of her work. Thanks to Gwen for giving us her time and speaking with us!

c. Leadership Transition - Leo & Maria are interim Co-Chairs pending appointment of someone to each of these positions.

d. As Leo was not able to make this meeting, and few people were in attendance, we discussed administrative challenges in keeping the Committee going. One issue was the need for someone to take minutes of the meetings and then write them for approval at our next meeting. Tsui Pappas agreed to do that. THANK YOU!

e. Discussions then took place regarding the following:

f. Our **next meeting will be September 28, 2021**. and everyone is urged to make an effort to attend, as it will be an administrative re-structuring meeting.

- g. Those in attendance in June agreed that the biggest issue is membership and involvement of the members we already have. Very few of the “Groups, Liaisons and Other Roles” always at the bottom of the agendas seem to have any meaning or purpose. Maybe it is in part b/c of the pandemic, but these 2 months “off” will give each of us a chance to evaluate the sub-committees of D&I so we can discuss what to keep, what to change, what to discard. As one person said tonight, we need to be concrete with our ideas.
- h. How do we get our information to the community? How many people actually look at our webpage on the Village site? E-blast? Currently we’re not allowed to have a separate FaceBook page or any social media account.
- i. How do we attract new members? Part of the answer is for us to do things publicly. A discussion on that led to a discussion of potential initiatives, as listed below.

We discussed periodic events to be sponsored, monthly or 4 events/year sponsored and promoted throughout the community by D&I. In the past there were speakers, and there was a great program in the Library presented by Historic Hudson Valley about Slavery in the North (as in right here!) and co-sponsored by D&I. Ideas that were proposed at the meeting:

1. A Diversity Calendar Committee (with imagination) can do something once a month related to any of the groups on the calendar for that month-a letter to the editor, a highlight of a local business, whatever (which is where imagination comes in!)
2. We’re about diversity-does anyone know anything about Croton’s historical/past diversity? That may be an interesting project to research and then maybe we can do something with it; maybe it can be a source of info for #1.
3. Maybe we can sponsor a D&I Book Club, reading diverse authors, stories of diverse cultures, etc.
4. Pre-pandemic we spoke about having a Diversity Fair-we all seemed excited about that, but then...along came March 2020. This is something which will take a huge amount of advance planning and needs a committee to work on it, but it will be a one-shot deal. Or maybe annual if it’s a hit.
5. Sponsor something like a Diversity Business Crawl where residents can go from business to business to find out more about it, maybe meet the owners, sample the food or products, etc.
6. We’re co-sponsoring the Lorraine Hansberry committee with the Arts & Humanities Committee to come up with ideas, proposals, methods of making more people aware of her and the fact that she has connections to Croton. I don’t think we have anyone from our committee actually on that committee, but we should, since we’re co-sponsoring it! (The idea came out of the Discussion Group’s February meeting regarding the history and relevancy of “Black History Month”.)

2. Ongoing Activity Updates - NO REPORTS

- a. Upcoming Monthly Celebrations/Recognitions
- b. Discussion Group Updates
- c. Schools Update
- d. Croton Houses of Worship (CHOW)

e. Croton Free Library Update

3. Administration - NO REPORTS

4. Old Business - NO REPORTS

5. New Business - NO REPORTS

GROUPS, LIAISONS, AND OTHER ROLES

- **Discussion Group:** Aliyah, Maria, Jodi, Sherry, John, Lisa, Michael
Mission/Purpose: To engage the community in expansive discussions on matters of anti-racism and other forms of bias, inequality, and injustices.
- **School Liaisons Group:** Aliyah, Maria, Michael, Sherry
Mission/Purpose: To ensure connectedness of ideas, attitudes, and actions between the school bodies and the D&I Committee

Affordable Housing Liaison: Jessica
Mission/Purpose:
- **Book Recommendations Group:** Amy, Tsui, Justin, Leo
Mission/Purpose: To provide thoughtful and provocative reading materials in connection with promoting diversity, equity and inclusion – often in relation to the celebration of the month
- **Supervision/Strategy:** Leo, Maria
Mission/Purpose:
- **Communications/Public Relations:** Lisa, Sherry (?), other?
Mission/Purpose: To invite participation and promote D&I activities including Discussion groups, Letters to the Editor, other PR, flyers, email lists, etc.
- **Charities and Non-Profits Liaison:** Tsui
Mission/Purpose:
- **Website Liaison:** Lisa Stefanoff
Mission/Purpose: Single point of contact for Bryan Healy relating to website updates- including book lists, discussion group materials, statements, etc.
- **Police Reform Liaison:** Michael Mui
Mission/Purpose:
- **New Member Recruitment and Onboarding:** Maria;

Mission/Purpose:

- **Member Training and Education:** Michael, _____

Mission/Purpose:

- **Houses of Faith Liaison:** Justin

Mission/Purpose: