

Town of East Windsor

Diversity Council

Minutes

Monday, December 28, 2020
Location: Meeting held via Zoom

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by Ana Rivera, as the chair. Meeting was held via Zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council member Richard LeBorinous led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Ana Rivera (chair), Natasha Holmes, Robert Leach, Rick Leborinous, and Joe Blackwood; Quorum Established
Members absent: Jonny Wyse
Guests/Public: First Selectman Jason Bowsza, Selectmen Charlie Nordell and Sarah Muska.

MINUTES

- Council Member Leach moved to approve the minutes from October 26, 2020; seconded by council member Blackwood; Motion carried unanimously
- Council Member Holmes moved to approve the minutes from November 23, 2020; seconded by council member Leach; Motion carried unanimously

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Nothing to Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) **Discussion of Plantation Road Renaming** continued from last meeting amongst all council members in attendance. Chair Ana Rivera is working with the Windsor Historical Society for additional insight/research to ensure we consider a proposed rename that will preserve the history of East Windsor.

Next steps: Chair Ana Rivera will follow-up with First Selectman Bowsza; meeting set for Wednesday, December 30th, 2020. Matter tabled until January 25th 2021 meeting.

b) **Discussion Equality Act Resolution** was discussed amongst all council members in attendance. The proclamations from East Hartford and North Haven were reviewed. Selectman Muska provided some insight on her hopes for the Council to take action.

Next steps: Council member Richard LeBorious volunteered to write the first draft of a resolution for East Windsor and bring to the January meeting for the Council to review.

c) **Establish Council Roles** was continued from November meeting. The chair was made aware that the council needed a vice-chair. Council member Holmes moved that council member Richard LeBorious be selected as the vice-chair who will act in absence of the chair; seconded by council member Leach; motion carried with a unanimous vote. Council member Leach moved that council member Holmes be selected officially as the secretary of the council; seconded by council member LeBorious; motion carried with a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Although no new business was on agenda; the following topics were raised from the floor:

a) Chair Ana Rivera brought to the Council feedback she had received from a constituent that prompted an ask for additional participation during discussion for all council members.

b) Council Member LeBorious brought up an opportunity for the council to apply for the Greater Hartford Foundation Grants. He mentioned that each town has a spin-off of the grant and advised the council should look into applying for the grant to support bringing in speakers and trainings to East Windsor surrounding courageous conversations around Systemic Racism, Diversity and Inclusion. The council members thought it was a great idea to pursue. We may need to seek connection with a 501(c)(3) organization to apply.

c) Chair Ana Rivera announced formally that council member Mary Mellom resigned from the Diversity Council. She will be requested Ms. Mellom to send an official email to First Selectman Bowsza.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member LeBorious moved to adjourn at 6:48pm, seconded by council member Leach. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Natasha Holmes
Secretary, East Windsor Diversity Council