

# Town of East Windsor

## Diversity Council

### Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 26, 2021

Location: Meeting held via Zoom

#### TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by Ana Rivera, chair. Meeting was held via Zoom.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council member Joseph Blackwood led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

#### ATTENDANCE

Members present: Ana Rivera (chair), Richard LeBoriosis (vice-chair), Natasha Holmes (secretary), Joseph Blackwood and Jonathan Wyse; Quorum Established

Member(s) absent: Gabriella Resto and Narda Nadeau

Member(s) of BOS: First Selectman Jason Bowsza and Selectman Charlie Nordell

Guest(s)/Public: none

#### MINUTES

- Council Member LeBoriosis moved to approve the minutes from February 22, 2021 Regular Meeting; seconded by council member Wyse; Motion carried unanimously.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- none

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Nothing to Report

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) **Voting of Plantation Road Renaming** moved by Council Member Holmes to move to the East Windsor Board of Selectman for consideration and next steps; seconded by Council Member Blackwood. Motion carried unanimously.

b) **Discussion of Grant Application** – Per Council member LeBoriosis requirements still have not been posted.

#### NEW BUSINESS

a) **Welcome new members** – Chair Rivera acknowledged new members Resto and Nadeau in their absence.

b) **Discussion of Inclusivity Speaker Series** – on hold until the Council can apply for the grant.

c) **Discussion of presenting to the BOS to expand membership to allow for participating but non-voting members** – This would be the case for new Members Resto and Nadeau. We need to secure the proper Democrat to Republican party ratio.

d) **Discussion on inviting Police Chief to discuss their approach to an MSW joining police force and other policing aspects** – The East Windsor Police Department is looking to add a social counselor/officer. This forum is scheduled for May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 6pm. Council members are asked to come prepared with questions. This discussion will be open to the public.

e) **Discuss putting out information in support of social justice movements** – statements coming from the Diversity Council taking a position on current events and issues. Need to consult with Board of Selectman on how that could work and be in compliance.

f) **Discuss reaching out to Rep. Dr. Anwar for discussion and guidance regarding vaccine hesitancy** – Council Member LeBoriosis to connect with his office on his availability and Council member Holmes to seek availability of resources she knows in the Department of Public Health. Idea is to host an informative panel for residents in Town of East Windsor.

- **Racism as a Public Health Crisis** – Also something the Council would like Rep. Dr. Anwar to come speak to the Council on for involvement.

g) **Discuss having a dedicated Zoom meeting code for our Council** – As the Council has had to cancel a couple meetings due to inability to get access to the zoom set up; we discussed possibility of securing a dedicated one as the Town is believed to not have any additional available. The Council agreed to utilize Council Member LeBoriosis's Zoom account as backup but did agree that as soon as it was reasonable and practical for in-person meetings in the Town space, we will do so.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Council member LeBoriosis moved to adjourn (time not noted), seconded by Council member Blackwood. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Natasha Holmes  
Secretary, East Windsor Diversity Council