# Town of East Windsor Diversity Council

# **Special Meeting Minutes**

Monday, February 1, 2021 Location: Meeting held via Zoom

#### TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm by Ana Rivera, as the 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), Natasha Holmes, Rick Leborious, and Joseph

Blackwood; Quorum Established

Members absent: Jonny Wyse and Robert Leach Guests/Public: First Selectman Jason Bowsza

#### **MINUTES**

 Council Member Blackwood moved to approve the minutes from December 28, 2020; seconded by council member Leborious; 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. The committee agreed that an issue of equity and inclusion exists and moved under unanimous consent to submit the recommendation to the Board of Selectman.

**Next steps:** Council member Holmes and Leborious to draft a resolution in time for next meeting.

b) **Discussion Equality Act Resolution** – the resolution drafted by Council member Leborious was reviewed by all council members in attendance. It was moved that the Diversity Council supports the resolution and strongly urges the Board of Selectman's adoption of the drafted resolution. Motion made by Council member Holmes and seconded by Leborious. Motion carried unanimously.

<u>Next steps:</u> Council member Richard LeBorious to submit final version of resolution to Chair Rivera to submit to Board of Selectman and US (CT) Senators Blumenthal and Murphy and State Senator Anwar.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

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

- a) Council member Holmes is looking into another opportunity that may fit within the council's duties to further Diversity & Inclusion in town. More to come.
- b) Council Member LeBorious brought up that the opportunity for the council to apply for the Greater Hartford Foundation Grants is coming up. He mentioned that we could get the Greater Hartford and East Windsor groups to endorse our application. The grant would support the implementation of a series of trainings for our town that can cover a range of topics, including but not limited to, Understanding Institutional Bias, Diversity Inclusion, etc. Council member Blackwood suggested bringing in a Social worker as a Presenter. The grant is expected to open in 30 days.

<u>Next steps:</u> The Council members will work to identify potential facilitators and trainings that can be implemented for the grant application and send recommendations before next meeting so a list can be compiled.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Council member LeBorious moved to adjourn at 6:27pm, seconded by council member Blackwood. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Natasha Holmes Secretary, East Windsor Diversity Council