



**Diversity Council**  
**Special Meeting Agenda**  
Tuesday, October 25th 2022  
6:00pm EST

**Hybrid Meeting- Zoom and Meeting Room 3 Bristol Public Library**

**Attendees:** Jaymie Bianca, Mohammad Aziz, Marcus Patton, Kelly Pacheco Houston, Derek Jones, Sebastian Panioto, David Macgregor Rackliffe, Desira Powell, Alison Rae Willette, Reynardo Ortiz

**Absent:** Jeffrey Israel

1. Call to Order

- Jaymie Bianca called the meeting to order at 6:05pm with a moment of silence for our Fallen Officers

2. Approval of September Meeting Minutes

- David Rackliffe moved a motion to approve September meeting minutes, Alison Willette second. Minutes were passed with a couple fixes to some typos

3. Public Participation

None

Derek Jones motioned to move up item 6 (panel) to item 4, Kelly Pacheco Houston second, motion passed.

4. Speakers: Donna Swanson: FOCUS Center for Autism, Jordan Lopez: Community Leader,  
Alison Willette: Diversity Council Member

- Donna Swanson is the Co-founder & Executive Director of FOCUS Center for Autism.

FOCUS is a nonprofit agency and has been operating for 22 years. Started as an extended day treatment, currently has a Fresh Start School, and 2 residential programs.

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- Donna Swanson shared some informational pamphlets with the Council. The pamphlets have helpful information on Autism. Donna share some of the day to day challenges someone in the spectrum deals with and how FOCUS has been able to assist.
- Jesse- FOCUS graduate, Jesse shared what his advantages and disadvantages are with having Autism. He currently moved into his own apartment with the help from FOCUS
- Jordan Lopez- Writer, currently is working on a book.
- Alison Willette- Diversity Council Member and FOCUS student.

#### 5. Farmers Market Turnout and Reception

The council was able to have a booth at the 10/15 Farmers Market, they had a great turn out.

Alison made some cupcakes for the public.

10/29 the council will have a booth available again.

#### 6. Youth Coalition: Meeting and Member Updates

Marcus Patton- Would like to have members of the Diversity Council be liaisons in the Youth Coalition. There are 6 students 2 from each high school.

#### 7. Adjournment

Marcus motioned to adjourn at 7:31pm, Derek second.