



Diversity Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 26, 2023 at 6:30pm
Zoom Only Meeting

Attendees:

Jaymie Bianca – Chair, Council Members Jordan Lopez, Olivia Chapdelaine, David MacGregor Rackliffe, and Jeffrey Israel

Absent: Alison Rae Willette – Vice Chair, Council Members Marcus Patton, Sandra Kamens, Anthony “Tony” Lopes, and Sebastian Panioto – City Council Liaison

Council Member Israel excused himself at 6:45pm

Guests: None

1. Call to Order

Chair Jaymie Bianca called the meeting to order at 6:42pm. A quorum was not present and no votes were taken during the meeting.

2. Approval of November 28, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

The Minutes were not able to be voted into the record without a quorum. Chair Bianca tabled this vote for the next scheduled regular meeting.

3. Public Participation

There was no Public Participation.

4. Current Business

a. Sub-committee discussion

Chair Bianca revisited the discussion of having sub-committees within the Council. This would provide more structure within the Council to deep dive into issues and then report back to the full Council. The Chair anticipates three or four sub-committees and the shared Google doc with sub-committee topic ideas will be shared out again. The Chair asked for any additional discussion ideas. Council Member Chapdelaine asked about the Youth Coalition and youth concerns being a sub-committee option. Discussion followed.

City of Bristol

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b. Resource List Update

The Chair has added to the list and shared the current Resource List which remains a live document for the Council before going live to the public. The Chair will remain focused on the 2/6/2024 live to the public date with a final draft for the Council soon as possible; potentially at January's meeting.

c. Panel Series Discussion

The Chair revisited Council Member Chapdelaine Youth Panel idea. All present were still in agreement with this topic for the February Panel Discussion. The hope is to solidify and promote the event as soon as possible. It will be voted on at the January meeting. The Panel Discussion is expected to be held on the regular February meeting date. Council Member Chapdelaine emphasized the voices of local youth with issues not being heard at the schools. The Panel Discussion would allow for a discussion and potentially provide a place for the issues to be addressed.

5. New Business

a. 2024 Meeting Calendar

The Chair shared the proposed 2024 Meeting Calendar with concern of the 4th Tuesday in December 2024 falling on Christmas Eve. An alternate date will need to be chosen and voted on at the January 2024 Regular Meeting. The Chair noted that the January meeting will be back in City Hall. She also noted that the fourth Tuesday of every month when the Council meets isn't always the last Tuesday of the month.

The Chair also revisited the city's Attendance Policy for the Council. She called on the Recording Secretary to clarify the attendance percentage and rolling calendar vs. twelve-month calendar. The Recording Secretary noted that attendance at Special Meetings doesn't count towards attendance, only Regular Meeting attendance does. She also noted she is regularly tracking attendance and communicating it to the Chair. The Chair then notifies Council members for their reference.

b. Upcoming Events

MLK Breakfast NAACP Mon January 15th at 8am Bristol Eastern High School. Tickets can be purchased by calling 860-973-4921. There were no other Upcoming Events to list.

The Chair noted that, if necessary, a Special Meeting will be scheduled before the Regular January Meeting. There is a deadline for the 2024 Calendar to be voted on and sent to the



Town Clerk's office for it to be on the record. The Recording Secretary will confirm that deadline and report back to the Chair.

6. Adjournment

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Council Member Lopez and seconded by Council Member Chapdelaine. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:08pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Arsego
Recording Secretary