



**Diversity Council
Meeting Minutes**

February 22, 2022 at 6:31 PM
ZOOM MEETING

Attendees:

X	Alicia Washington	X	Erica Pearson	A	Mohammad Aziz
X	Marcus Patton	X	Alice Ferguson	X	Jeff Israel
X	Sandra Bogdanski	X	Kelly Pacheco Houston	X	David Rackliffe
X	Jaymie Bianca	X	Derek Jones	X	Sebastian Panioto (council liaison)

Public Attendees: Dean Wright, Logan Williams, Christopher Wilson, Jill Wilson, Bill Mancini

1. Call to Order
 - o Alicia Washington called the meeting to order at 6:30pm
2. Approval of January 2022 Meeting Minutes
 - o Alicia asked for a motion to accept the January minutes, Jeff Israel motioned, Alice Ferguson second, minutes were approved.
3. Public Participation
 - o Bill Mancini: Special Education teacher at Ivy Drive Elementary School. Current Grant Coordination of the 21 Century Grant. The Grant allows for the development of 3 after school programs at 3 different elementary schools (South Side School, Hubbell, Ivy Drive) The program is for students that can use some review due to Covid-19 shut downs. Grant funds will also help those students with scholarship for summer enrichment programs. Bill is looking to get information from the council in order to collaborate.
 - o Jill Wilson: Represents the Prospect Methodist Church in Bristol. Small committee in the church is looking to strengthen their relationship with NAACP.
4. Current Business

City of Bristol

111 North Main Street
Bristol, CT 06010
www.bristolct.gov



A. Initiatives

- o Youth Coalition: Jamie B (Marcus P) Setting some tangible goals. They have been talking to teachers & students to spread awareness and gauge interest (logistics). After meeting they want to look at next stage (ie approval) and submit to the council for input then send out to the schools.
- o Impact Avenues: Alice Ferguson – Brief overview. Actively addresses Diversity Council's goal to declare racism a health crisis. It is very involved (not easy) but there is hope for progress. Wants to hear and react to what the community needs. Held 2 meetings the past month. First meeting health solutions looking at holding community forums (hear from public and educate). Second meeting was with Bristol Health, very productive meeting, 2019 community health needs assessment reviewed. They had commissioned UNH students to do a 2022 update of community health needs assessment. Diversity Council will be a part of the research and will help set trends. Would like to have a focus group. Alice al introduce a podcast idea.
- o Cultural Festival: Sandy B.- Google Doc has update minutes from the last meeting.
Different areas of focus for the Cultural festival, outreach talking to local business, grant application for marketing, Alicia and DK will be doing media. Entertainment (dance schools). Religious (tbd). Location for the festival can be held in the downtown area or one of the parks, looking to hold the festival the following summer. Jamie and Logan will be meeting up with the schools to see if they can do some sort of art/ musical number. Time (tbd). Next meeting March 22 or 23. Sandra will be getting in contact with the Arts & Cultural Committee. DK will be meeting with the Mayor. DK will be working with the Health Department in order to approve the food services for the event.



5. New Business

- o Affordable housing: No updates
- o Diversity Training- Council members & City employees. Start having more forums & community outreach on DEI. Have a podcast to address these important contacts in the community.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Ochoa
Secretary