

**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee Meeting
Selectmen's Meeting Room
Richard D. Carney Municipal Office Building
100 Maple Avenue
Shrewsbury Massachusetts 01545-5398**

Monday August 14, 2023 at 6:30 pm

AGENDA

Present: Holly Millershank, Freddi Koss, Adeola Mbaneme, Cinthia DosSantos Mesquita, Kubra Mohammdi, Pankaj Adaval
Present via Google Meet: Bindu Gupta
Also Present: Beth Casavant

1.) Call to Order

Meeting Start Time: 6:33 pm

2.) Introductions

First meeting where Kubra was there with all seven members present.

3.) Review and act on the minutes of July 10th 2023

Approved the minutes of July 10th

4.) New Business

a.) Review and act on the reorganization of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee

- Holly moved to nominate Freddi for Clerk. Adeola seconded.
 - Vote by roll call
 - Cinthia: Vote Yes
 - Pankaj: Vote Yes
 - Kubra: Vote Yes
 - Bindu: Vote Yes
 - Freddi: Vote Yes
- Holly moved to nominate Cinthia as Chair. Adeola seconded.
 - Vote by roll call
 - Pankaj: Vote Yes
 - Kubra: Vote Yes
 - Bindu: Vote Yes
 - Freddi: Vote Yes
 - Cinthia: Vote Yes

- Holly moved to nominate Bindu as Vice Chair. Adeola seconded
 - Vote by roll call
 - Pankaj: Vote Yes
 - Kubra: Vote Yes
 - Bindu: Vote Yes
 - Freddi: Vote Yes
 - Cinthia: Vote Yes
- Reorganization is as follows
 - Cinthia DosSantos Mesquita: Chair
 - Bindu Gupta: Vice Chair
 - Freddi Koss: Clerk

b.) Review and act on a new meeting date for September

- Move September meeting Monday 09-18-2023
- Vote by roll call
 - Cinthia: Vote Yes
 - Pankaj: Vote Yes
 - Kubra: Vote Yes
 - Bindu: Vote Yes
 - Holly: Vote Yes
 - Adeola: Vote Yes
 - Freddi: Vote Yes

5.) Old Business

a.) Review and discuss Logo Contest for Spirit of Shrewsbury event

Adeola suggested we make the contest open to all Shrewsbury residents, not just students. We changed the deadline to Sept 11th. We will accept PDF format. We discussed how to promote the contest, and discussed us sharing it with friends and on social media. Freddi will make the necessary changes to the document and share the final draft with Taylor.

b.) Review and discuss website and calendar for DEIB committee

Checked the town website and made plans to send Taylor the calendar we want to use on the website.

c.) Review and discuss planning for the Multicultural Festival

Holly and Bindu are the people in charge of this. Oak Middle School is the location. It will take place the second weekend in November. The next meeting for this event is Wednesday August 16th. Cinthia to fill out the survey to request a booth for the DEIB committee..

d.) Review and discuss planning for Junteenth 2024

We will discuss and create a subcommittee for this at the September meeting (09-18-2023).

e.) Review and discuss possibility getting a booth at India Society of Worcester (ISW) events

They always have events going on, we need to keep an eye out for more events. Bindu will email them about letting us know about future events and how we can get/apply for one of the nonprofit organization free booths.

f.) Review and discuss attendance policy for DEIB committee

We discussed how attendance has been, and discussed how we do not want to use traditional means of enforcement, however, we also talked about how there is no shame in stepping down/resigning if you can not commit. We discussed the potential for hybrid meetings and we made a point of if you can not make it to a meeting or need to be hybrid please notify Taylor and Cinthia.

6.) Correspondence:

a.) Email dated August 3, 2023 from Ashley Falandys - Shrewsbury Special Education Advisory Council (SEPAC) - Chair, re: Shrewsbury Inclusion Event.

About a proposed event in March 2024 about disability. Cinthia will reach out for more information.

7.) Adjourn

- Freddi moved to adjourn. Seconded by Bindu.
 - Vote by roll call
 - Holly: Vote Yes
 - Adeola: Vote Yes
 - Kubra: Vote Yes
 - Cinthia: Vote Yes
 - Pankaj: Vote Yes

Meeting End Time: 7:18 pm

Minutes by Freddi Koss DEIB Committee Clerk