

January 26, 2021, 6:30 pm

GoToMeeting | Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
4 So. Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT

MINUTES

In accordance with Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7B and social distancing guidelines recommended by the CDC to slow community spread of COVID-19, this meeting is physically closed to the public. The public may listen to the meeting live by calling 1 (872) 240-3212 and using the access code 136-276-797. Additionally, an archive video recording of the meeting will be made available at <https://mansfieldct.gov/video> for 12 months.

Public Comment will be accepted by email at FerraraMT@mansfieldct.org or by USPS mail at Town of Mansfield, Attention: Monica Ferrara, 4 South Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06268 and must be received prior to the meeting (public comment received after the meeting will be shared at the next meeting).

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by Glenn Mitoma.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present: Xiomara Bruder, Heather Evans, Virginia Lorenz, Glenn Mitoma, Amy Nocton and Assistant Town Clerk, Monica Ferrara

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the December 15, 2020 meeting were passed on consensus.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Update from Town Council Meeting

Mr. Mitoma reported that on January 25, 2021 The Indigenous Peoples Day proposal was presented and adopted by the Town Council with all in favor. It was Suggested that when we have the first Indigenous People's Day we would like to recognize Mary Lynch for her valuable contribution to the renaming of the day. Mr. Mitoma also presented the preview of the framework for engagement for the HRC upcoming report. The Town Council is eager to have concrete information to be able to act and move

toward concrete plans and outcomes. Mr. Mitoma also expressed that the Town Council would like to hear from us as we discover.

Heather Evans inquired about naming the new elementary school after a woman or person of color, or the native lands at a PTO meeting, and Kelly Lyman requested that this consideration be brought to the HRC.

B. Questions for Survey for Equity Review

The subcommittee discussed different means for asking questions of the town citizens, schools, library, COR, Town Management, etc.

Questions such as: How do you define human rights? or How do you define equity? The subcommittee talked about using a 1-5 liechert scale to answer some questions. The commission needs to also be aware and be careful about having leading questions. It was suggested that interviews end with questions like: What else would you like to share with me? And Who else should we talk to?

Ms. Evans suggested finding out demographic information/roles without collecting the person's name: town resident, town employee, parent, student (UConn/High School/Middle School), work in town (but do not live in town), race, gender, language, orientation, age (range), etc.

Mr. Mitoma shared a link:

<http://www.hrusa.org/hrmaterials/temperature/tempprint.htm> as something the commission might be able to adapt for our needs.

During face to face interviews, we might want to let people know that some of the questions could be triggering. People doing the interviews should have resources to give to interviewees should they be needed.

Mr. Mitoma offered to do a draft survey. Monica will see whether or not the town already has some surveys. She will also look into other data sources that the Town might also have access to.

At the next HRC meeting there will be a draft of the survey. With a goal to get the survey out into the field in March. Ms. Evans and Ms. Lorenz volunteered to repurpose the "Taking the Rights Temperature of Your School" to bring to the next full commission meeting.

C. Election of Officers

Mr. Mitoma nominated himself for Chair. Amy nominated herself for secretary. Positions were agreed on by consensus.

6. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:33 pm.