

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

MINUTES

In accordance with PA 21-2 §149 and social distancing guidelines recommended by the CDC to slow community spread of COVID-19, this meeting will be held virtually. A video recording of the meeting will be available on YouTube at "MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT STREAMING CHANNEL" (<https://mansfieldct.gov/video>) within seven (7) days after the meeting.

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). Please email Ferraramt@mansfieldct.org or call 860.429.3304 by 4:00 PM on the day of the meeting to receive instructions for how to view, listen, or comment live.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Fried called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Fried, Hosmer, Kanadia, Nocton

Excused: Alfred-Abney, Allopenna, Farrow, Vaughan

Staff: Katherine Bell, Margaret Chatey, Monica Ferrara

Public: Derek Cameron (student volunteer), Felicia Famularo (student volunteer),
Rene Mercado

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 11, 2023

Minutes were unable to be voted on due to lack of quorum.

4. MEMBER REPORTS

Student volunteers, Derek Cameron and Felicia Famularo, reported that Deliberation and Discourse hosted a Public Forum on Access to Education that was very successful.

Ms. Fried reported that there was another racial incident in Hebron and that they are having public conversations hosted by a skilled diversity educator. Coalition on Diversity & Equity (CoDE), an organization in Hebron, is sponsoring an all-day event with Debby Irving – the cost for the day is \$10. Ms. Fried also met with the principal of Mansfield Elementary School. The elementary schools are going to have a conversation about Juneteenth in all the elementary classrooms before school ends. Ms. Fried would like to create another poster on Juneteenth with art and statements from the elementary school kids. Ms. Fried is also going to a meeting at the Community Center regarding events and activities that would be good for the community. Ms. Fried also gave some Black History Month Events that are going on in the community and surrounding areas.

Ms. Kanadia reported on some of the things she was doing in the elementary schools for Black History Month, including morning announcements, available books in the library, etc.

Felicia Famularo reported that she and a few other students are going to the State office on Friday to record footage on the importance of genocide education.

Ms. Fried reported for Ms. Vaughan: Ms. Vaughan talked with Mary Flood from the Senior Center and found out that the main concerns for seniors, which included affordable housing and transportation.

Ms. Bell reported that the Youth Diversion Board has been very busy, and that the Board is happy to be making a positive impact. She also stated that we should be sure to get the Pride Proclamation on the Town Council agenda sooner rather than later. Celebrate Pride event will be Friday, June 9, 2023. This year Youth Services will be ordering more pride flags for the public because they have gone so quickly in past years.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Affordable Housing Check In

Tabled until the next meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Women's Month

Ms. Nocton reported that Deliberation and Discourse is hosting an event on Women's Reproductive Rights. The Library is having an event on Women's History Month and Black History Month.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Chatey reported that there was a great statement from Jane in the February Newsletter about the HRC. Jane can write a piece for each issue of the newsletter. Ms. Chatey also created a QR code for the posters, website, and suggestion boxes.

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.