

COMMISSION ON RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

Minutes of Regular Meeting

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021

7:00 PM—ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

Commission Members: Xabian Alarcon, Alina Bricklin-Goldstein, Deb Carroll, Tracy-Ann Johnson, Barret Katuna, Sue Oppenheimer, Dave Peniston, Lillian Tanski, Jen Wang

Research Partner: Michael Vigeant, Great Blue Research

Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm.

1. Public Comment: no public comment
2. Discussion and Possible Action on Art Contest:
 - a. SO shared revised poster for contest, without Town seal.
 - b. AB asked for Commission consensus on age groups, deadline, etc.
 - c. AB asked Commission if we should restrict submissions to visual art?
 - i. SO replied that poetry is also art, but perhaps could be a standalone event
 - ii. DC thought having another event for poetry or other media may encourage longevity to RJEC efforts
 - iii. BK suggested renaming rule guidelines, accepting all media
 - iv. JW suggested poetry may be its own event, asked if RJEC should explore partnering with arts organizations in town, asked to place Glastonbury at top of flyer to make clear this is a local effort, while open to everyone from everywhere
 - v. DP loves poster and event, would like to restrict to visual art to save another event
 - d. MV asked if this event open to all regardless of location
 - i. LT stated being open to broadest definition of community is very important, JW agreed, consensus found on open to all greater Glastonbury community
 - e. BK suggested changing in my eyes to through my perspective to be fully inclusive, consensus agreed.
 - f. Discussion turned to deadline for contest and means to accept entries

- i. BK suggested posting a google form to RJEC website to gather information/attached submission
 - ii. Discussion and Consensus to move deadline to 6/30 per DC suggestion
 - g. Discussion among members on how to publicize contest
 - i. SO suggested running an ad to promote contest, DC to check with Citizen on possible donation
 - ii. DP asked about WTML, JW to continue efforts at outreach with library staff
 - iii. DP updated that contest will be introduced in art curriculum at Glastonbury schools- may drive interest and submissions
 - iv. BK suggested inviting town program/facility directors to our meetings to learn more about RJEC
 - v. LT expressed concern staff will feel compelled to attend as a work commitment, so meeting requests should be limited to reports if needed, while establishing relationships through other means during work day outreach
- 3. Discussion and Possible Action on Report from Webpage Working Group
 - a. BK and JW presented webpage
 - i. Webpage to include sections: About (Mission and Background Information), Updates (to auto update with Press Releases, other announcements), Calendar of meetings and events, signup for RJEC notifications, Social media links, RJEC resources (presentations, meeting information) and listing of local resources in Social Justice space.
 - ii. RJEC members asked to help process of development and refinement via google doc JW will distribute.
 - iii. Upon review, website can be linked from Town Website to supplement information there.
 - b. JW and BK offered thanks to Deb McFall for offering use of her collection of Glastonbury photographs for use on the website.
- 4. Discussion and Action on Survey Draft:
 - a. MV walked members through survey as updated to reflect most recent feedback
 - b. MV identified demographic questions that could be dropped to make survey more concise:
 - i. DC would like to keep question re: growing up in Glastonbury
 - ii. LT would like to keep language spoken at home question
 - c. Final decisions will be made following next round of review with survey ready to go live shortly
 - d. Survey will be accessible via link, suggestion to post link to RJEC website to drive attention to survey and RJEC approved by consensus

- e. DC asked RJEC to think about what more can be done to promote participation as survey goes live
 - i. MV advised spreading through social media groups and local news (Citizen and patch), send to personal/professional contacts with link to website
 - ii. LT offered to retool last press release to resend to media outlets
 - iii. MV will also promote effort through GreatBlue contacts, believes Glastonbury may be statewide leader in this kind of effort
- 5. Other Business/Reports
 - a. DC asked RJEC members about comfort with in person meetings, noted that given the expiration of Governor's executive order allowing remote meetings, RJEC may need to move to in person or hybrid meetings, but DC and LT will continue to seek way to keep online option for members and public participation.
 - b. DP shared news from Glastonbury Schools: As of this spring, GPS has recruited and hired three leaders of color for 2021/22 year- Hopewell Principal, GHS Assistant Principal, Music Director
- 6. April 22, 2021 RJEC minutes approved unanimously.