

INCLUSIVITY TASK FORCE MEETING

April 15, 2021 6:30 pm

Minutes

Chair: Kate Baxter-Kauf

Secretary: Cathy Plessner

Staff Contact: Alexa Golemo, Alyssa Mitchell

Attendees: Kensey Lipstreuer, Saura Jost, Art Punyko, Craig Skone, Ann Dolan, Dave Pasiuk, Marsha Berry, Zak Yudihishthu, Brian Wagner

Minutes

I. Introductions / Additions or Deletions to Agenda

The Committee members shared their thoughts and feelings about the trauma members of our community are experiencing at this time.

II. Approval of March 2021 Minutes Meeting

Motion, Seconded, Passed 9/0 1 Abstention

III. Equity Plan: Goal 1: Action Step 2:

Milestone 1: Develop a list of education topics and preferred formats (videos, FAQs, etc.) and research existing educational materials (Zoom, etc.) (June 2021).

The Committee was grateful for the clear outline Saura Jost put together based on what she heard at the March meeting:

Tasks:

1. Learn about the history of our neighborhood and St. Paul as it relates to inequities and disparities within our community today.
2. Training and education regarding EDI – Identity, Privilege, Anti-racism, Implicit bias, Oppression, White Supremacy, Systemic Racism, and many more.
 - a. This could be just for MGCC and committees and/or open to the community.
3. Work alongside other committees to ensure that all of our work is mindful of EDI
4. Outreach – branching out to other councils and neighborhoods to listen and collaborate

Goals:

1. Cultivate an inclusive environment within MGCC and our neighborhood.
2. Provide space for open and critical conversations.
3. Provide space and resources for individual growth with the goal to generate organizational and community change.
4. Improve the involvement of under-represented groups.

Timeline – kickoff tasks #1 or #2 at the July meeting

Especially in light of current events around police brutality and the resulting pain and trauma on the community, our work is extremely important and urgent. I think that the

MGCC is in a great position to make improvements to bring about change within our neighborhood and in St. Paul.

Committee members expressed support for these goals. Integration of the goals throughout MGCC would be essential. Measuring progress is a fifth goal. It is difficult to measure learning and movement but it will make our work more meaningful if we articulate what we accomplish.

Opportunities to learn more about each other create inclusion. Continuing our community outreach efforts is important but not sufficient to help under represented groups and individuals feel wanted as participants. We need to do more to welcome all who live, work, learn and play in Macalester Groveland. The Block Ambassador program and engagement with schools may foster connection. It is important to pay attention to the message given by the visuals on our website. Incorporating a commerce aspect may draw traffic to MGCC's website. The website can be a vehicle to encourage residents to attend activities throughout St. Paul. Alexa will explore possibilities to work with Macalester College on Macalester Groveland's Equity Scorecard.

The next steps are to determine whether there's anything new in these goals related to our Strategic Action Plan or what has been presented to the Board and reach out to resources to plan the July Retreat for the Board and Committee members.

IV. Review 2021 Annual Meeting and Elections

Ballots will close tonight. We have approximately 75 in total which indicates we have reached more under represented community members than in the past. The survey that the Community Building Committee created closes tomorrow and is at 239 participants, another great number.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 P.M.