

INCLUSIVITY TASK FORCE MEETING

May 6, 2021

Minutes

Chair: Kate Baxter-Kauf

Secretary: Cathy Plessner

Staff Contact: Alexa Golemo, Alyssa Mitchell

Attendees: Hannah Boldt, Art Punyko, Craig Skone, Ann Dolan, Zak Yudihishthu, Patty Hartman, Brian Wagner, Athena Adkins, Dawn Huffman, Gary Huffman, Chris, Pixel3xl

Minutes

I. Introductions / Additions or Deletions to Agenda

Committee members and guests introduced themselves

II. Approval of April 15, 2021 Minutes Meeting

Motion, Seconded, Passed 7/0 1 Abstention

III. Next steps for producing educational materials

Action Step 2: Develop accessible materials to educate community members about MGCC and train interested community members digitally.

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

Recommendations: Short video on MGCC Website that explains the process for each committee and Democratic Rules of Order. Partner with committees to prepare primers. The district council system is currently working with St. Paul's Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED) to redo the land use trainings. Include education about the St. Paul 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Look for ways to breach the digital divide to include elderly voices. Be sure our engagement includes people who are members of our community because they work, play, learn or pray in Macalester Groveland. Students have a stake and want to get involved, they just don't know about it. Use the information from the Community Building Team's Community Survey with more than 250 responses about what MGCC does, how well we do it, and what respondents want. A recorded round table of Committee/Team/Task Force Chairs explaining what we do, why we do it, how we do it would show people their options and help them know what to expect before they attend a meeting. Multiple formats are necessary to reach a variety of groups. Focus groups of constituents would tell what and how they would like would information. Introductions make people feel welcome. Recognize that every committee and the Board has a culture. Have a communications plan for each group.

Action step: We need a basic FAQ and introduction to the Board and Committees. Staff can add a "I'm new here." button on the Home Page that teaches step-by-step.

Milestone 2: Pursue the creation of 2-3 high-priority educational materials. (September 2021)

IV. Review 2021 elections & Evaluate inclusivity measures

Each year one-third of the MGCC Board is up for election. The 2021 was for the seven At-large Organizational Seats: Business (2), Education, Faith, Landlord, Renter and Student. Only qualified members of each “organization” are allowed to vote; renters vote for Renter, leaders of an educational institution vote for Education, etc. The eligible votes for the seats were: Two Business = 18, Renter = 4, Landlord =4, Student = 15, Education = 4. At-Large Board positions for under-represented voices cannot be compared to the 2020 Elections. Sometimes you need to show up four or five times in front of the same person in order for them to be involved. We used various means to reach out to all constituent organizations.

V. Community Building Team (CBT) survey results presentation

CBT sent out a survey out to the MCGG community for feedback on current and previous programming and the different ways we do community outreach. It also asked for basic demographic information to better understand who we are connecting with in different ways. The longer running programs still have the community buy-in. Future programming activities that are more popular: sustainability related initiatives, history related items and items that are more philanthropic. Overall rating was 3.8 stars out of 5. Diverse Inclusivity and Race Equity were rated at the top of the scales of the Importance of Different Topics. Crime Prevention was the highest “Absolutely Essential” for Community Building. The CBT plans to do this with relevant modifications annually.

VI. July 2021 MGCC Board & Committee Retreat planning

Presentation by Athena Atkins of the Intercultural Development Inventory to be continued at June ITF meeting.

VII. Adjourned