

Town of Hartford Committee on Racial Equity & Inclusion
Wednesday, January 29th, 2020
6pm to 7:30pm

In Attendance: John Hall (Chair) Sara Campbell (Vice Chair), Kim Souza (Clerk), Ann Reynolds, Michelle Boleski, Allene Swienckowski, Joe Major, Community Member (arrived at 7pm)

Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Ann moved to approve the 12.04.19 minutes as presented. Allene seconded and the vote passed unanimously.

Committee Vacancy – Interview Process

HCOREI has received 3 applications to date.
Applicants are Peggy Richardson, Alicia Barrow & Joe Major

Ann moved that we table the interview process until after the March election since 2 of the applicants are also candidates for Selectboard. There was no Second, so the motion failed. There is a consensus that we should begin the process which will take us beyond the March election before the committee is ready to make a recommendation to the School Board & Selectboard.

Sara moved that the HCOREI Interview Process will include:

- Development of interview questions
- Schedule Interviews (sub committee or warned as executive session)
- Allow for a period of deliberation
- Formal recommendation to both boards
- Applicants appear before both boards for acceptance

Allene Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sara moved that the HCOREI applicant interview questions include:

- What are your personal reasons for getting involved?
- You were sent the committee's charge before this interview - what are the most salient points in your opinion?
- Because the charge is so substantive, we have sub committees - which areas would you want to engage in?
- Are you at all familiar with the organizational structure of the committee and Vermont's open meeting law?
- What does Equity mean to you?
- Which evenings are you available for meetings?
- Questions you would like to ask us? Anything we should have asked but did not.

Allene Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Allene moved that we schedule an interview with Joe Major & Alicia Barrow (if available) on February 6th. Sara Seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Peggy Richardson had informed the Chair that she would not be available during January and February.

There was some discussion around the format of the interviews.

The Chair will give a general summary of HCOREI's work and mission. HCOREI is not an advocacy group, but more involved with research & recommendations. It was also mentioned that the interview should be conducted by the Chair and that any further discussion by other members take place during sub-committee deliberation.

Kim moved that an interview sub-committee be formed to include John Hall, Sara Campbell, Ann Reynolds and Allene Swienckowski. Allene Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Strategic Plan Update: John reported that he'd spoken with Curtiss recently to clarify some questions around the formation of HCOREI and that they expect to move a draft to Tom and Brannon soon. Allene reported that Mary felt there was a requirement to present the report to HCOREI once in its final form.

Upcoming meeting dates (beginning at 6pm) are:

Wed Feb 12

Wed Feb 26

Wed Mar 18

Future meeting dates to be sent once new HCOREI members are confirmed.

The motion to adjourn at 7:35pm was made by Allene. Seconded by Sara.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Souza, Clerk.