

Town of Hartford Committee on Racial Equity & Inclusion
Wednesday, March 6th, 2019
7pm to 8:30pm

In Attendance: Michelle Boleski, John Hall, Sara Campbell, Allene Swienckowski, Kim Souza & Ann Reynolds.

Review and pass minutes from the previous meeting. Ann made motion to pass minutes, Allene seconded. Vote unanimously passed.

RFP Review: John presented a printed copy of the preliminary rough draft of the Request for Proposals that the RFP Sub-Committee have prepared. Members are asked to review the draft and send suggested edits directly to John by Sunday evening. Leo gave some general feedback before his departure as TM and Brannon Godfrey has also sent helpful notes. We will continue to consult Brannon and keep him informed and will add Tom Debalsi, School Superintendent, to the next round of reviews. After that, we will approach both Board chairs (school & town) for comments. We suspect that Town staff will be able to help with the final formatting of the document in line with standard town RFPs before presenting to the Hartford School Board and Selectboard. John, Sara & Kim (RFP Sub-Com) will meet March 13 for the next round of edits.

School Check-in: Allene shared an article about racism in schools bill in NH. Michelle met with Curtis Reed about the US Commission on Human Rights – VT and the Commission on Civil Rights – VT about school discipline practices in the state. Michelle attended one of a 3 part series in Brattleboro. Others to take place in Rutland and Montpelier.

Ann updated on the status of [Bill H.3](#), an Act relating to ethnic and social equity studies standards for public schools.

Michelle noted that the Principal's Ends Reports will be presented to the HSD at the next two meetings.

Sara noted the [CEP program](#) and was wondering if the White River School would be eligible. It seems that the district, as a whole, is not eligible, but that the WRS is on it's own. Michelle will inquire with the School Board and Allene will research independently.

Announcements: Kim has stayed in touch with AG's office regarding the postponed panel(s). Kim will reach out again to AG as well as the Rutland Area NAACP as recommended by TJ Donovan's assistant. John suggested requesting a forum to take place within the Town of Hartford.

Ann inquired about the status of the HCOREI Mission Statement. John reported that the RFP process took priority and we will return to the Mission work once the RFP has been posted.

Ann passed out fliers and some additional information for a series of upcoming events called [Toward Racial Healing](#). Coming up April 6 + May 4 at Kilton Library in West Lebanon, NH. Co-Sponsored by UVIP, SURJ & CARL.

Next Steps & Closing: RFP Sub-Com will meet next week. Education Sub-Com will determine a next meeting date soon.

The motion to adjourn at 8:40pm was made by Sara. Allen Seconded.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Souza, Clerk.