



Lawrence Township, New Jersey

Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 21, 2022, 6:30 PM

Location: Lower-Level Conference Room,
Lawrence Township Municipal Building,
2207 Lawrenceville Rd, Lawrence Township, NJ 08648

1. Icebreaker and Attendance

David Spaulding, Hardat Singh, Jasmine Surti, Joe Forte,
Ken Bernabe, Nabeel Hasan, Paige Johnson
Pat Deeney (she/her), and Peri Nearon.

Excused: Axel Haenssen, James Loper, Riya Patel

2. Review of Minutes

b. Reading, Comments, and Approval

3. Guest Speaker- Dr. Charlie Williams, New Jersey Civil
Service Commission (CSC), Office of Diversity Programs
Topics: A) Overview of DEI Concepts, B) Legal and
Practical applications re: DEI, and C) DEI
programs/initiatives at CSC, D) Q and A

4.Planning Committee Report on Diversity Holidays

Pat Deeney and Paige Johnson reported on AAPI, Pride, and Juneteenth write-ups.

At the recommendation of the committee, it was suggested to work with township historian, Brooke Hunter. Committee would like to add information related to the Township history into the write-ups. Highlights will also include Lawrence figures, resources into materials.

Committee voted by acclamation to move the recommendations out of committee to Council.

May meeting will review Women Equality Day and Disability Independence Day.

5.Review of DEI Committee Website Edits

Committee voted by acclamation to make recommendations to council to update DEI website with township ordinance information.

6.Old Business- Mission, Vision, and Values Statement

Committee discussed adding values to committee mission. Group will compile language and work together on creating a draft.

7. Open for Discussion

DEI Holiday List currently has celebratory holidays (excludes religious). Hardat Singh will report at next meeting religious holidays that should be included for consideration.

8. Public Participation

9. Adjournment Next Meeting: Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.