



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
**CITY COUNCIL Diversity Equity and Inclusion
Committee**
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
802-865-7144 VOX • 802-865-7024 FAX • www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

Councilor Ali Dieng, Chair, Ward 7
Councilor Karen Paul, Ward 6
Councilor Brian Pine, Ward 3

Wednesday, July 29th, 2020
5:30 PM – 7.30PM

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Jul 29, 2020 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: DE&I Committee Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83755390347?pwd=NSStDczlvSGVTQlIQelkzQzdmOVhpZz09>

Password: 367309

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Webinar ID: 872 5588 2402 Password: 367309

To participate in public forum please join the meeting via the Zoom link AND email Marcella Gange before or during the meeting: mgange@burlingtonvt.gov. Comments can also be made during the meeting by using the raise hand function or the chat function.

DRAFT MINUTES

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee – City of Burlington, VT

Committee members: Chair Ali Dieng (AD), Karen Paul (KP), Brian Pine (BP). City Staff: Tyeastia Green, Director Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging & Marcella Gange, CEDO.

Meeting called to order at 5.36pm

1. Review and approve draft agenda and minutes of meeting of 05/21/20.
Add to agenda - Item 4.1 Follow up to the Racial Justice Resolution to City Council – motion Clr Pine, 2nd Clr Paul – unanimous
Move to approve agenda and minutes - Motion Clr Pine – 2nd Clr Paul – unanimous

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contact Marcella Gange at mgange@burlingtonvt.gov

2. Public Forum – Jean Waltz – BSDVT School Board Commissioner – Thanks to City Clrs for acknowledging motion that School Board considered on the subject of SROs, for recognizing the importance of continued consideration of the position of SROs and Pilot funds.
3. Committee name change – Dir Green spoke to reasoning behind suggested name change. Discussion. Proposed name change to “Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee”, Change supported by all members of the committee. Clr Dieng to contact CAO for guidance on process for name change.

4.

Item 4.0 Outreach Report to Education Institutions. Welcome to Sandy Yusen (SY) from Champlain College, Director of Communications and External Relations. Sandy suggested that the Committee also connect with Nadia Mitchell, Equity Initiatives Director. Champlain College has committed to the following - Strategic review of DE&I priorities, with goals and benchmarks. Review of organizational practices, including a college-wide audit and opportunities for short and long-term priorities

Clr Paul - Recognize that Champlain College has great resources for the City and is a great neighbor – welcomes areas for collaboration

Clr Pine – Supports engagement with the engage with community in a meaningful way on this issue, including scholarship funds and other engagement – with Champlain College and UVM

Clr Dieng – What is current collaboration with City? (SY) President Akande has met with Mayor Weinberger and taken part in recent COVID related press briefings to announce discounted rate Champlain College online courses, designed to help those changing career path, as a result of pandemic and related economic situation.

Clr Pine will connect with UVM to request representation at the next meeting, to hear of UVM’s work to support the advance of racial justice work in the community and expanding partnerships to address issues

Item 4.1 Follow up to the Racial Justice Resolution. Clr Pine – would like to give consideration to upcoming resolutions to City Council on BTV’s role around chattel slavery and how do we as a city move forward on reparations? Invites Dir. Green to speak on the context and background for this work and any information to hand on the approach of other cities to

the question. Dir Green – reviewed the progress of H40 and its relevance to reparations discourse. Talked about the importance of considering what happened in VT, our role in perpetuating slavery, and the potential for subsequent racial reckoning and awakening. Reviewed the experience of action in other cities, including Asheville, NC and the types of reparations pathways that might be available.

Clr Pine talked to a proposed resolution on Reparation coming to City Council.

Clr Dieng suggests that the committee invites Mary Danko, Director Fletcher Free Library to following meeting to hear about the racial equity work of the Foundation.

Clr Dieng notes the work of Clr Pine on the removal of ELAP mural and Clr Paul on the installation of the BLM mural

Clr Paul talked to the BLM mural process and reported on the PAC meeting and the BCA and Church St Marketplace next steps on ELAP

5. Schedule next Meeting – Tuesday, August 25th at 5:30pm
6. Motion to adjourn – Clr Pine, 2nd Clr Paul – unanimous – Meeting adjourned at 6:49pm.