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City of Langley

Dismantling Systemic Racism Advisory Group **MINUTES**

March 10, 2021 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

LANGLEY CITY HALL
112 2nd Street, Langley WA

Attendees

Matt Tamayo, Marcella Pendergrass, Kennedy Horstman, Irene Vernon, Harolynne Bobis, Craig Cyr, Chris Byrne, Brigid Reynolds, Barbara Schaetti

Guests: Preston Ossman, Seth Sobottka

1. Agenda Approval

- Vote: Approve 7, Oppose 0, Abstain 0

2. Minutes Approval

- Vote: Approve 7, Oppose 0, Abstain 0
- Decision: Approved with the amended change: Replace word changed to change in the discussion section.

3. Status Updates & Announcements

- Craig -City Council update
 - Craig has been coordinating with WSC and local trainers. WSC will provide a public workshop/training on April 12, tentatively at 5:30. Local training includes 2 City council members with 5 staff members.

- Kennedy asks that we participate and in the local training so we can hold them accountable.
- Harolynn asks that WSC trainers include how white nationalism and supremacy impacts work in the City.
- Decision:
 - Brigid will talk to Craig to make sure that WSC trainer knows about the Mayor and about Chief Lauer's response to our Memo request. She will also provide clarity on the upcoming trainings at the next mtg.
 - Craig will provide further information about training particularly if the public will be able to speak at WSC training.
- Irene asked for clarification on what Craig's liaison position consists of. Craig informed the committee that every city board as an ex officio council member (nonvoting) that provides guidance and channel of communication between DSR and City Council.
- Matt/Irene Co-Chairs update- none
- Kennedy - Comprehensive Plan
 - Thanks to Kennedy and Barbara for their recent documents regarding the CP. Public hearing went well with two people opposing the language.
 - Two important upcoming City Council mtgs: March 15th 1st reading and April 5th. Brigid said it is not a bad idea to attend but not necessary.
 - Decision:
 - Irene and Kennedy will attend both Council meetings since they are on the CP subcommittee.
 - Brigid will provide DSR with the written opposition documents presented at the Planning Advisory Board mtg.
 - Brigid has recommended that all DSR recommendations to City Council be provided in written form so it can become a public record.
 - Kennedy has tabled questions for next mtg.
- Irene- Island County covid planning committee
 - Irene continues to push equity issues but the County Committee does not effectively work in a community participatory manner. It is slow and clunky albeit they want to be helpful about equity issues. They have been engaging in a herculean task with little resources. Larry Behrendt, leader of the local Indivisible Group will be working with Irene on the vaccine planning committee and on equity issues. He works closely with Jill Johnson (District 2 representative) Oak Harbor representative who is wanting to help push for vaccine equity.
- Irene-SWSD Education-none
- Barbara-Grange
 - The Grange was supposed to have voted on new membership on March 2nd but no one has heard back yet. There are 50 applications on hold, awaiting approval. There will be important upcoming news at the next Grange mtg next this coming Thursday. One must register to attend meetings.
 - If someone needs regular information on meetings contact Barbara who will place you on their mailing list.

4. For Discussion

- Mtg process (time limits)
 - Decision:

- Updates will be submitted in paper form to Irene who will compile them and include in our agenda packet.
 - Irene will send reminders for written updates before each meeting.
 - The agenda update section will be utilized to answer questions.
 - Agenda will be presented then we will stack order the most important 3 items to discuss at the meeting. If we complete them then we restack the next 3 items.
- City Council
 - Chief Lauer and Mayor's comments on white supremacy, white nationalism, and safety:
 - Barbara provided a brief overview of their responses.
 - All DSR members expressed concern with some finding their responses shallow, disrespectful, and not taken seriously.
 - Many felt that the Mayor's comments demonstrated unsupportive and obstructionist behavior toward the dismantling of systemic racism.
 - Decision:
 - We will invite Chief Lauer and other city police, to visit with us after training from WSC, to further discuss issues of white supremacy, white nationalism, and community safety.
 - DSR will submit for public record a letter regarding the Mayor's response. This letter will also be read at the April 5th city council mtg. All members are asked to submit to Irene items they would like the letter to include. Marcella and Irene will begin the draft.
 - DSR activities (ltr writing): Brigid reiterated that we cannot write letters to the public as identified DSR members.

5. **Closing**

- Next City Council Attendee (March 15): Harolynn
- Next meeting: March 24, 2021