

Dismantling Systemic Racism Meeting Updates

May 12, 2021

City Council Update (Craig)

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Chair Update (Matt)

- Connected with Rhonda Salerno, Planning Advisory Board Chair, with regards to her request to collaborate with the DSR. She would like to share what the PAB is currently doing along with how both advisory boards (PAB & DSR) can work together on affordable housing issues/solutions/etc. Time for Rhonda to share and meet the DSR has been allocated and recorded on the DSR's 5/12/21 meeting agenda.

Comprehensive Plan (Kennedy)

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Island County Covid Inclusion Advisory Response Panel Group (Irene)

- Assisted in the creation of a BIPOC only pop up clinic in Oak Harbor as well as flyers and advertising.

SWSD Education Update (Irene)

- Helped advertise the ethnic studies HS job posting and develop interview questions.

Solidarity over Supremacy (Barbara)

- None

Verbatim Reports from Citizens to DSR - Proposal (Craig)

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Dismantling Systemic Racism Meeting Updates

April 28, 2021

City Council Update (Craig)

- Anti-Racist Training Delay

Chair Update (Matt)

- Leslie Boies, Anne Hayden, and Diana Sandoval are currently re-grouping to establish and promote the Restorative Practices Collective. They created the RPC with the goal of spreading restorative practices to create a safe, equitable and inclusive community in Langley and South Whidbey (both proactively and to address harm committed). Part of their work includes establishing relationships with local and county officials; i.e. Sheriff/Police Chief, council, etc. The RPC's interested in partnering with the DSR to help promote each group's shared mission and community goals. Leslie, specifically, is interested in interviewing Zach Norris, author of [Defund Fear](#), and having this (potentially, if possible) be a joint venture with the DSR.

Comprehensive Plan (Kennedy)

- May 4, 4pm Planning Advisory Board public meeting on multi-family infill

Island County Covid Inclusion Advisory Response Panel Group (Irene)

- We have organized our work processes and have begun to build unity within the group. We recommended that the County make a commitment to the collection of race/ethnicity data. And, we discussed other recommendations - pop-up clinics for BIPOC folx at diverse locations and allowing BIPOC folx to get a shot anywhere and anytime.

SWSD Education Update (Irene)

- Job application submission for a HS ethnic studies teacher ends May 31st. Pay is \$55-\$11,000 depending on experience.

Solidarity over Supremacy (Barbara)

Verbatim Reports from Citizens to DSR - Proposal (Craig Cyr)

Dismantling Systemic Racism Meeting Updates

April 14, 2021

City Council Update (Craig)

The City Council approved the training plan presented by Diana Sandoval and Kenisha Lewin. The training is comprehensive anti-racist training for both the staff of the City Of Langley and for the city Council later on. Sandoval and Lewin need to develop the curriculums for the anti-racist training for the city Council and provide a bid.

Chair Update (Matt)- None

Comprehensive Plan (Kennedy)

The proposed updates to the plan, including the Antiracism and Social Equity goal, were approved during the 4/5/21 Langley City Council meeting.

The Planning Advisory Board Chair, Rhonda Salerno, has requested participation of the DSR in the upcoming Langley Affordable Housing Community Meeting. (You likely have received a Doodle poll requesting availability in May.)

Island County Covid Planning Committee (Irene)- Will no longer be on the County COVID Planning Committee. In its place will be participating in the County's COVID Response Inclusion Volunteer Advisory Panel Cmte with members: Carmen Nantez, Diana Sandoval, Derek Hoshiko, Larry Behrendt, Pastor Fannie Dean, Christy Korrow, and Don Mason. This committee will specifically be examining multilevel aspects of vaccination inequities in Island County. County has been putting out Spanish language information and let me know if you want to share. As well with those without computers that need to make appointments there is a process so let me know if you want to share that info.

SWSD Education Update (Irene)- None but upcoming meeting planned.

Solidarity over Supremacy (SOS-Whidbey, formerly Reclaim the Grange) (Barbara) - An email from the steering committee on 6 April announced the campaign's change of name. The change is both a response to community input and a way to resolve a threat of legal action by the National Grange for using the word "Grange" in the original campaign name. As the email says, "We are excited that this name better conveys the objectives of community, accountability, and equity that have guided the campaign from the start. We also expect that this name allows us to continue making the broader connections to racism and oppression in South Whidbey so we can create the safe, inclusive and equitable community we long for."

The steering committee's email also encourages everyone to read a recent [South Whidbey Record story on the campaign](#).

Dismantling Systemic Racism Meeting Updates

March 24, 2021

City Council Update (Craig)

1. Council agreed to reschedule DSR Training by WSC on April 12th to 3:30 pm so as to include Staff during normal work hours.
2. Per observation from Co-chair Irene Vernon, that economically challenged communities of color frequently are denied access to Pools that require entry fees, I proposed an amendment to a resolution endorsing a Public Aquatics facility. The amendment added a new Therefore clause:

"And, be it Further Resolved that the City Council of Langley encourages South Whidbey Parks & Aquatics Foundation and South Whidbey Parks and Recreation to structure entry fees such that economically challenged individuals, and families, who pay taxes to fund the public aquatic facility, will have access to the public aquatic facility."

I am grateful to Irene for her observation and glad that the Langley City Council agreed to the amendment unanimously.

Co-Chairs Update (Matt/Irene)

1. None

Comprehensive Plan (Kennedy)

1. Comp Plan Goal Update completed first reading. Second reading scheduled for April 5

Island County Covid Planning Committee (Irene)

1. Rolled out new resources and tools to help ensure equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine.
 - o **Minimum standards**

They asked that all providers assess their current practices for language access, accessibility for people with disabilities, and demographic data reporting. **Most providers already meet these standards.** All providers are asked to assess their accessibility for people with limited English proficiency and people with disabilities by April 2, 2021 and work on areas that need improvement. We are here to provide support and technical assistance. **You do not need to submit any proof of assessment and compliance efforts to the Washington State Department of Health.** We will reach out to proactively support overcoming access barriers if we hear of them by community members

- **Pro-equity strategies**

These pro-equity strategies have emerged directly from communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and partners. These strategies are highly **recommended to support equitable access.** They will add additional strategies and resources to our [COVID-19 Vaccine Equity & Engagement webpage](#) and would appreciate hearing about your success stories implementing these or other pro-equity strategies. Email equity@doh.wa.gov to share your success stories and best practices.

SWSD Education Update (Irene)

1. None, no meetings held

Reclaim The Grange (Barbara)

Very sobering update meeting, Thursday March 18th. 75+ participants. A truth-telling by the steering committee about the now unequivocal nature of the bad faith obstructionism by local, state, and national Grange, including the high probability that the 50+ new membership applications will be refused (still no official word to anyone). Personal testimony about local harassment and threats by white nationalists, and a fact- and data-based update of how national white militia movements are linked very directly to South Whidbey and to local hate and racist incidents. Recognition that it is hard to explain the threat as understanding it depends not

only on the intellect but on feeling all the feels. The Q&A section spoke to safety (given that the Grange now has all that applicant data, and that at least one steering committee member has been directly threatened); strategy (building strong community as a starting and ongoing campaign emphasis, and the need for us all to stand ready as the steering committee continues working); and more. They announced the April 12th Western States Center training for the City of Langley, and encouraged support of the work of the DSR.

ReclaimTheGrange campaign principles: Safety, Equity, and an Inclusive Democracy.

The meeting started with a song by singer/songwriter Holly Near, and ended with these lyrics: "To be hopeless would be so strange. It dishonors those who have gone before.... So lift us up to the light of change."

TEMPLATE

Dismantling Systemic Racism Meeting Updates

Date, 2021

City Council Update (Craig)

Chair Update (Matt)

Comprehensive Plan (Kennedy)

COVID Response Inclusion Volunteer Advisory Panel (Irene)

SWSD Education Update (Irene)

Solidarity over Supremacy (Barbara)