

Glover Equity Committee
MINUTES
2 February 2023

Present: Ann Creaven, Betsy Day, Bethany Dunbar, Sara Gluckman, Jethro Hayman, Chair, Mariel Hess, Maria Hill, Vice Chair, Joan Vincent, Carmela Young, Darlene Young, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 3:04 p.m.

Black History Month

Jethro has posted a link to the State of Vermont's Office of Racial Equity series for Black History Month. By registering, you receive daily emails.

<https://gloverequity.org/black-history-month-2023>

First Tuesday Group

The First Tuesday Group will be held at David Perrigo's house on **Monday, February 6**. The meeting was scheduled for a Monday due to conflicts.

Anti-Equity Efforts

Recognizing that there are efforts nationwide to undermine equity work, we discussed ways to counter those efforts. We also discussed possible collaborations with other equity groups. Motion (Hayman/Hess) to write a letter to the editor on behalf of the committee in support of equity work. APPROVED. Carmela and Bethany agreed to draft the letter.

Lake Region Annual Meeting

The Lake Region Union High School Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15 at 7:30 at the school. In addition to voting on the budget, there is an article on the warning to change how board members are elected.

Non-Violence Training

Motion (Hayman/Dunbar) to approve the dates for the online non-violence training with the King Center. APPROVED. The training will be held on Wednesday-Friday, March 8-10 from 12 to 2 p.m. We need a minimum of 25 people for the sessions, but can accommodate more. Northeast Kingdom Quakers and the United Christian Church in Vermont are co-sponsoring. The cost is \$25 per participant. Jethro will set up registration through the website gloverequity.org.

Racial Literacy Training

The racial literacy training with Sha'an Moulert met for its first session January 21 with 13 participants, including some young people.

Vermont Inclusion, Diversity, Equity Action and Leadership (IDEAL) Program

Maria and Jethro attended their first meeting of the IDEAL program in Montpelier recently. Resources from the group will be shared with the committee. Most of the other members of the group are in leadership positions in their town, such as town managers or selectmen. Maria and Jethro are the only town equity committee members. They completed an intercultural inventory and will meet with Xusana Davis, Vermont's Racial Equity Executive Director, to discuss the inventory.

Vermont Health Equity Grants

A health equity grant application was submitted in partnership with NEKCA and the Vermont Department of Health. No word has been received about the application for funds. A health equity technical assistance grant application has also been submitted. Betsy provided many of the suggestions included in the grant. We may want to consider partnering with midwives in our health equity work.

Mud Season Dance Party

Maria is hoping to confirm the band "Nephrock" from Massachusetts for our Mud Season Dance Party within the next week so we can start promoting it. No date is set but it will probably be near the end of March. The family event will be free but we will encourage donations at the door and online. We will charge for food and drinks. BYOB. Bethany suggested that we make the event zero-waste by using real plates and silverware rather than paper. Maria and Darlene will discuss food options. Committee members will do clean up to minimize expenses. Jethro will set up an online donation for the event. It may be necessary for the committee to set up a PayPal account for events like this one. Maria and Betsy have offered places to stay for band members.

Pride Center of Vermont Training

Jethro is working to schedule an online "Safe Spaces" training with Pride Center of Vermont, possibly on a Wednesday. No date has been set. The Pride Center has funding to offer the trainings so there will be no charge. It will be either one or two sessions.

Still I Rise Festival

Still I Rise Festival will include African artists, speakers, musicians, dance, comedy, storytellers, a panel discussion, art and educational activities. The date for the festival will be Saturday, July 22, from noon to dark. Jethro has reserved the Town Hall and Glover School for that date. We discussed the possibility of using an outdoor space such as the Green as another venue. The check for the down payments is being drawn by the town clerk. The approximate cost for the event will be \$7,000. Jethro hopes to raise between \$4,000 and \$5,000 in sponsorships. Jethro will draft a flyer soon so we can begin soliciting sponsorships. Bethany and Joan agreed to help with sponsorships when we are ready. The event will be free but donations will be encouraged. The same organizer is putting on a free storyteller event, Sankofa, in Hardwick, on Saturday, February 4 at Hazen Union High School starting at noon.

Meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month. Next meeting: Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 3 p.m. at the Glover Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Young, Secretary