

City of Geneva Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Taskforce

Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2022

Call to Order

The regular meeting of City of Geneva DEI Taskforce called to order at 6:35pm at Geneva Fire Department Training Room by Chair Nuzzo Erickson.

Roll Call

Present: Nuzzo Erickson, Gramlich, McMillen, Forst, Albert, Amaya, Kelly also present Johnson.

Amendments to the Agenda

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held May 25, 2022 motion to approve. 1st Amaya and 2nd Gramlich.

Presentation

Sheriff Ron Hain was the special guest speaker. Sherriff Hain reviewed his duties of the Sherriff and what DEI initiatives he has put in place since becoming Sheriff in 2018. Sherriff Hain shared that many inmates are drug addicted and have mental health issues. His office has worked on Therapy programs and medicated assisted programs. His office then focuses on job training skills and assisting with employment after incarceration. There seems to be a lot of racial disparity of those in custody and the population of Kane County. Data analytics has proven to be the main driver of programs. Sheriff Hain would encouraged the Taskforce to take a tour of the jail and to educate the general public about rehabilitation and hiring of former inmates.

Updates

Member Kelly updated the group on the SAGA bathroom initiative. The High School group has designed and ordered stickers for Geneva businesses. They are working on a list of businesses to approach. Once they list is finalized they will reach out to the Taskforce for assistance with approaching businesses about displaying stickers. Another strategy is approaching businesses to discuss them converting gender assigned restrooms to unisex single stall restrooms.

Member Forst indicated that the DEI garden plot located at the corner of 3rd and James St. will be right in the middle of the action for Swedish Days. She also brought up the idea of accessible parking for festivals. Staff Liaison Johnson will put Member Forst and Member Amaya in touch with Chief Passarelli for further discussion.

Member Amaya reported that the community DEI survey is ready to go and he has also received a quote from Fast signs for \$10 each. He indicated that one last review of the questions are needed and that a design for the signs need to be made. He also suggested that the signed be placed strategically through town on various weekends to encourage participation over time.

New Business/Public Comment

For the July meeting the discussion will center on Internal City Practices from a DEI lens. An RFQ is being drafted for a facilitator. The Taskforce is also hoping to report to the Mayor and City Council on progress in October.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm, motion by Amaya, second by Albert. Next meeting will be held July 27, at 6:30pm at the Fire Department on East Side Drive.

Minutes submitted by: Mera Johnson, Staff Liaison