



Ad Hoc Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2023 at 6:30 pm
Woodbridge Library Meeting Room

Present: Co-Chairs Ellen Scalettar and Tahera Parvez, Steven Lawrence, David Franklin, Mohini Ranganathan, Lor Ferrante Fernandes, Ke Xu

Guest: DEI Coach Peter Downhour, Amity Regional High School

1. Chair Parvez called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.
2. **Opening Circle**
David Franklin opened the meeting with a passage titled the “The Jewish Mayflower”. Discussion ensued.

Chair Parvez mentioned this week’s shooting of the black teenager by a white homeowner when the boy rang the doorbell to the wrong house. Discussion took place.
3. **Amity Regional High School DEI Initiatives**
Peter Downhour noted that his teaching background at Amity Regional High School along with his instructional training in the area of diversity, equity and inclusion brought him to his current role as DEI Coach which began this academic year. He described his role and highlighted core values of the school district along with guiding principles and goals. Discussion ensued.
4. **Experiencing Woodbridge Survey Findings – Community Discussion**
To share the Experiencing Woodbridge Survey results, the Committee prepared for the upcoming Community Discussion to take place Wednesday April 26, 7 pm at the JCC.
5. **Other Outreach Initiatives & Updates:** Discussion to take place at May meeting.
6. **Woodbridge Like Me Day (WLM) – September 30**
For WLM, it was noted that a separate subcommittee will be created to help with planning the event. While WLM will take place on the same day as the annual Road Race, the thought is that WLM take place between 11 am – 2 pm.

7. **February & March Minutes:** Tabled for the May meeting.
8. **Volunteer for Next Opening Circle:** Tahera Parvez
9. Meeting adjourned at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted: *Toni Belenski*