



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

Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 6:30 pm via Webex

### **Meeting Link:**

<https://woodbridgect.webex.com/woodbridgect/ldr.php?RCID=1d45697f22d58fab955975af4277eb63>

**Present:** Co-Chairs Ellen Scalettar and Tahera Parvez, Steven Lawrence, Javier Aviles, Lor Ferrante Fernandes

1. Chair Parvez called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.
2. **Opening Circle**  
Lor Ferrante Fernandes opened the meeting with a quote with focus on unity. Discussion ensued.
3. **Woodbridge Like Me Day Update – September 30, 11 am - 2 pm**  
Tahera reported:
  - Use of the Town Green for WLM Day was approved by the Board of Selectmen.
  - Event logistics with the Police and Recreation Departments, event set-up staff, and food vendors are being coordinated by Jennifer Sullivan from the Library. Reach out to Town Departments regarding event participation took place.
  - To date, about 25 organizations and 6 performers will participate in the event with follow-up and reach out still taking place.
  - Event fliers, A-frames, and Woodbridge Town News will be used to promote WLM.
  - Coordination with volunteers to help with the event will take place.

A proposal received from a local church to participate in the WLM Day was discussed. So as not to exclude any religious organization, the group thought it best to arrange a meeting with all religious organizations throughout town to discuss the 2024 WLM event.

4. **Initiatives**  
Mosaic Reading in the Community event will be planned for the fall. Determining interest from Woodbridge authors to lead the event was discussed.

**5. Outreach & Other Updates**

- To support Amity BOE, DEI members will attend the Sept. 11 meeting at 6:30 pm.
- The State of CT is conducting an Equity Study. The survey is available at CT.org.
- The August 16 DEI Meeting will be cancelled. The next meeting is September 20.

**6. Volunteer for September Opening Circle: Steven Lawrence**

7. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm