

CITY OF LEBANON
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION COMMISSION
May 17, 2022— 6:00pm
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL or
Remote Via Microsoft Teams: LebanonNH.gov/LIVE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Beckett (Public Representative Alternate); Renee DePalo (Chair) (*via telepresence*); Richard Ford Burley (Secretary); Keiselim Montas (Public Representative); Bise Wood Saint Eugene (Public Representative); Devin Wilkie (City Council Representative); Tia Winter (Public Representative) (*via telepresence*)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nancy Graham (Public Representative); Karen Liot Hill (City Council Representative); Emily Walton (Vice-Chair); Simone Whitecloud (Public Representative Alternate); Karen Zook (City Council Alternate)

STAFF PRESENT: Shaun Mulholland (City Manager)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair DePalo calls the 17 May 2022 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Commission (DEI) Meeting to order at 6:15pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 3 May 2022

A MOTION by Devin Wilkie to approve the minutes of the meeting, as amended. Bise Wood Saint Eugene seconds The Motion.

**The Motion is approved unanimously.*

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Report out regarding assignments

1. **Review of City policies, Codes, and Charter regarding equity**—Richard Ford Burley will collaborate with City Manager Shaun Mulholland to test out the equity lens framework.
2. **Juneteenth steering committee update**—Tia Winter reports on Juneteenth planning developments.

B. Liaison status reports

1. **Hartford Committee on Racial Equity and Inclusion (HCOREI)**—Kathy Beckett reports back regarding potential collaboration with Lebanon DEI.
2. **Lebanon Arts & Culture Commission**—Councilor Devin Wilkie reports that the Arts & Culture Commission did not meet due to a quorum issue.
3. **Lebanon School District**—Chair Renee DePalo reports that there is progress toward the hiring of a social worker, but no official announcements yet.

C. Continue discussion and formulate plans for community conversations regarding DEI—Councilor Devin Wilkie reports the creation of a listening session signup form. Chair Renee DePalo suggests advertising our first session ahead of time in multiple media, on- and offline. Further details are discussed.

D. Survey / data gathering update—Bise Wood Saint Eugene and City Manager Shaun Mulholland coordinate regarding progress on survey. The questions have been developed by Vice-Chair Emily Walton.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss the Roe vs. Wade decision as it relates to the leaked information from the U.S. Supreme Court—City Manager Shaun Mulholland reminds the commission that it is not the purview of the commission to set policy, but to provide recommendations to the City Council and City Administration on DEI matters. Councilor Devin Wilkie introduces why the topic was brought up. Broad discussion follows regarding the purview of the commission and the topic at hand.

A MOTION by Devin Wilkie that the Commission “provide on the webpage for the Lebanon DEI commission the informational statement on the Roe decision on page six of the packet, substituting the first line with a more neutral and historical reference to the original Roe v. Wade decision.” Kathy Beckett seconds The Motion.

**The Motion passes 5-1 with 1 abstention.*

B. Discuss the School Resource Officer (SRO) position as it relates to the School Board’s decision.—Councilor Devin Wilkie introduces the topic, reading letter by Lebanon High School Students of Color Collective regarding police officer presence in schools. Broad discussion follows on the topic.

A MOTION by Devin Wilkie that the Commission “authorize Devin Wilkie to work with the City Manager to prepare to the closest extent possible a fact-based statement from the statement on law enforcement in schools on page 8 of our agenda packet to post to the webpage.” Kathy Beckett seconds The Motion.

**The Motion passes 4-3.*

C. Receive reports from the City Manager and Councilor Hill regarding the City's Race Equity And Leadership (REAL) training program and core city staff diversity team—This item postponed due to time constraints.

5. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No discussion.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7. OTHER BUSINESS

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Renee DePalo adjourns the meeting at 7:35pm.