



CITY OF
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

RACE EQUITY TASK FORCE
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2019
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
CITY HALL
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
280 MADISON AVENUE NORTH
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA 98110

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / ACCEPT OR MODIFY AGENDA / CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE – 6:30 PM

MEMBERS: JAMES FRIDAY, CHAIR
SUSAN WILMOT, VICE-CHAIR

KIAN ASHABI
JANNA CHAN

BRENDA FANTROY-JOHNSON
SAVANNA ROVELSTAD

COUNCILMEMBER LIAISONS:

JOE DEETS

RASHAM NASSAR

2. APPROVE JULY 11, 2019 MINUTES

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – 5 MIN

4. SELECTION OF A NEW RETF MEMBER

5. SIGNAGE SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

6. ETHICS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OUT FROM 7/15

7. FARMER'S MARKET UPDATE

8. GARE UPDATE

9. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

10. ADJOURNMENT – 8:00 PM

Scope of Work

1. Develop a series of events through the end of the year designed to promote awareness and raise the community's level of engagement around race and to encourage a dialogue between Bainbridge Islanders and its elected officials on this topic.
2. Task Force will invite the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) and the People's Institute Northwest to first come and meet with the task force and then we will have a study session discussion.
3. Task Force to provide a series of recommendations to City Council on ways in which the City can help the community become a more inclusive and responsive community when it comes to addressing racial inequities.



MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / ACCEPT OR MODIFY AGENDA / CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

– 6:30 PM

- a. Agenda accepted as written
- b. Minutes accepted as written
- c. No conflicts of interest disclosed

MEMBERS: James Friday (Chair), Susan Wilmot (Vice-Chair / remote attendance), Kian Ashabi, Brenda Fantroy-Johnson, Janna Chan, Savanna Rovelstad

COUNCILMEMBER LIAISONS: Joe Deets, Rasham Nassar

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. Cindy Anderson: Not directly related to task force. Shooting on 7/3 in Poulsbo. Appears to be a wrongful shooting by police. Poulsbo has a public safety meeting on the third of the month. Everyone is allowed to speak. Committee is comprised of 3 council members, elected mayor, chief of police, a judge, and local prosecutor. BI police task force is part of an inter-county group investigating the shooting. As citizens we should be concerned when our police department is involved.
- b. Charlotta Rovelstad: Express hope that task force will advise cultural competency training for all city officials due to troubling comments from city staff.
- c. Sal DeRosalia: Why isn't the selection process for a new RETF member more public? Why don't we have someone from the Suquamish tribe represented on this RETF?
 - i. We should be more concerned and involved with the shooting investigation.

3. NEW RETF MEMBER SELECTION

- a. Council Member Deets: When openings come up on a City Committee, new Member(s) are selected by the Chair, Liaison(s), and Mayor. For permanent Committees, the City typically advertises the openings twice a year, in December and in June. But the practical challenge for the Task Force is that it is currently slated to complete its work at the end of 2019, and therefore we are running short on time.
- b. Brenda: Where is this process stated? I didn't know we were even selecting a new member. I think we should make this a more open process. I'm leaning toward waiting.
- c. James: We have been looking at the original group of applicants. We should have gotten someone on the task force sooner.
- d. Kian: I think we should wait a bit. We are working well together and adding a seventh person can alter the dynamic. I would like to wait and bring in our facilitator.
- e. Sue: I think we should stick with our team. We can make a decision at a later time.
- f. James: The consensus is that we wait.

4. JULY 4 DEBRIEF

- a. Brenda: I want to acknowledge BIMA for the donation of the use and training of the button maker, Sheila Hues. I feel like the public was happy to see us, even though there were some perplexed looks.
- b. James: Everything was last minute. We were supposed to be in the city's booth, but they told us we could not at the last minute.
- c. Council Member Deets: Funding for the parade was discussed at length at the city council meeting. Ultimately, the city agreed to pay.
- d. **Action Steps:**
 - i. James will send a thank you to BIMA
 - ii. Council Member Deets will mention the task force in the newsletter and push to get pictures of the parade into the issue.



5. REPORT BACK FROM GARE AND PEOPLE'S INSTITUTE PRESENTATIONS

- a. Brenda: For what we're trying to do – set the foundation moving forward – I choose GARE because they have more experience doing this.
- b. Janna: I'm in favor of GARE. They have a proven track record.
- c. Kian: I'm in favor of the People's Institute. They attacked this issue from an institutional perspective. I didn't think the woman from GARE was energized.
- d. Sue: I listened to the GARE presentation afterwards. I think GARE is a good place to start.
- e. James: I think GARE is going to be the most pushing point we need. Our council needs to be counseled.
- f. Council Member Nassar: Put together a recommendation with a cost breakdown. Someone will need to come and propose the item at a study session and make the case.
- g. The RETF votes to recommend GARE as a partner
- h. **Action Steps:**
 - i. Janna: Schedule a conference call with GARE. Develop recommendation/proposal for GARE membership with breakdown of costs

6. DISCUSS RETF "PURPOSE" AND NEW CITY COUNCIL "SCOPE OF WORK"

- a. Council Member Nassar: This was discussed and passed at the council as a formality. One word was changed in item #3.
- b. Council Member Deets: We used #1 to push for the parade.

7. FARMER'S MARKET UPDATE

- a. Brenda: Dates are April 6 – Dec 14. We would submit an application as a non-prof: \$5 application fee and \$1 fee/day. We can use the parade sign for the booth. There may be a booth fee.
- b. Council Member Deets: We should have the tent and other supplies for a booth. RETF should not need approval from the council to do this.
 - i. Council Member Nassar: I agree
- c. **Action Steps:**
 - i. Brenda will reach out to Kristin (city comms) for tent and supplies.
 - ii. Council Member Deets will send a message to the city manager as an FYI

8. SIGNAGE SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

- a. Brenda: I met with Kian and we discussed potential verbiage. There are a few cities pushing a "welcoming" message. I think we should partner with businesses to put up welcome signs.
- b. Kian: I want us to do a "Friends of the Race Equity Task Force." It's a pledge of support.
- c. Council Member Nassar: RETF is a committee of the council. I don't know if you can "brand the committee" to the public. We need to talk to the city manager about this. We are also a "welcoming city." This is a title inspired by the anti-immigration policies of the current administration. You have support in the city already.
- d. Council Member Deets: Morgan was supportive of signs in different parts of the city. Come up with a recommendation.
- e. **Action Steps:**
 - i. The subcommittee will look into "welcoming city" approved signage and messaging.

9. ETHICS BOARD MEETING REPORT OUT (JUNE 17)

- a. There was no meeting on 6/17
- b. Next meeting is on 7/15 – James will try to attend

10. DISCUSS REACHING OUT TO COMMUNITY GROUPS

- a. Council Member Deets: Public safety committee is being rescheduled to 8/29
- b. James: I spoke with the chamber of commerce and they are supportive of our work. Perhaps we can schedule an event on the Winslow Green.
- c. Brenda: I spoke with Sheila from BIMA and she wants us to recommend a cultural event



11. REVIEW PUBLIC EMAIL PROCEDURES

- a. James: Anything that comes through RETF needs to be forwarded to me as a follow-up.
- b. Janna: Did we get any closure on the “blue lives matter” sticker on police cars?
- c. **Action Steps**
 - i. Council Member Deets: We can discuss the outcome of the “blue lives matter” sticker question at the public safety meeting

12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR AUGUST MEETING

- a. Selection of a new RETF member
- b. Signage Subcommittee update
- c. Ethics committee meeting report out from 7/15
- d. Farmer’s Market update
- e. GARE update

13. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- a. Cindy Anderson:
 - i. Signage – COBI has two properties on 305. You could put a sign on the police dept as well as the Franciscan building. I have a piece of land on the 305 and you can put a sign there.
 1. Council Member Nassar: the city hasn’t purchased the property yet
 2. Council Member Deets: The city owns Wayfarer park where thousands of people go by every day
 - ii. The Suquamish Tribe – speak with Sarah Van Gelder; she now oversees communications for the tribe.
- b. Peggy Erickson: I like the farmer’s market idea. A survey would be a good way to capture information.
 - i. Karen Vargas is doing research on the history of Bainbridge. You should consult her about historical markers.
- c. Sue: We need to keep apprised of the shooting in Poulsbo. When we spoke with our deputy chief, he mentioned that they get called in to help. He also said that he’s unaware of the training other police departments get.

14. Adjournment – 8:00 PM