

**RACE EQUITY TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 2, 2020**

**I. CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 PM**

**Roll Call** – Present: James Friday, Brenda Fantroy-Johnson, Susan Wilmot, Savanna Rovelstad, Peggi Erickson, Rasham Nassar.

James – Joe Deets has resigned as our Liaison. We appreciate and thank him for his service and support.

Rasham – He is taking on more duties on the City Council as Deputy Mayor and more work around the Covid pandemic.

**Minutes Approval** – Modification approved: #8 B Third paragraph: Change “Savanna” To “Peggi”. Agenda approved as amended.

**Code of Conduct** – Brenda

**2. SUQUAMISH ANCESTRAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Peggi**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sal DeRosalia – Joe Deets sent an email to him, Chasity Malatesta and Karen Vargas and that was not the reason for resigning that he told them. Sal created a Facebook account and it says that it is not an official RETF page. It is to help get information out to the community.

Erin Phillips – The annual report from BIPD has a category “Suspicious Activity”. We should look into what our community thinks is suspicious activity. Are there criminal background checks of BIPD? Should we consider a Citizen Oversight Committee? There used to be a City Council/Police Department committee. We need more transparency.

Daryl Blackwell – Thank you Rasham and RETF for pushing before this became a Big Thing. It was disappointing to hear James use the term reverse racism. I would like to volunteer to help the RETF.

**4. GARE PLAN**

Rasham – The program is different from 2019. We will meet with the full City Council on 7/7. We need to evaluate our original GARE proposal vs. what GARE is now offering.

Brenda – I attended the introductory session today. Since we are a member, we should have gotten a welcome packet and been assigned a regional contact person. GARE is not taking on new members right now. We need to find out who our contact person is.

Peggi – We need to be kept in the loop. Dwayne Marsh should be our contact. I sent an email to the task force with the 4 courses that match what we proposed - they fit our budget.

Sue – We should add Leading for Racial Equity. We all need to be on the same page for language and communication. The Community Outreach piece should be done in person.

James – We need to get committed for something to get us started.

Brenda – Doing courses now is all online. Down the road we hope to do in person.

James – We want training now.

Sue – Does our budget carry over into 2021?

Rasham – Money has been allocated for GARE with changes allowed because of COVID. We need to put the proposal in a document for Tuesday 7/7. Peggi will put together a word document with our revised proposal of the 5 courses we recommend: Advancing Racial Equity, Leading for Racial Equity, Using a Racial Equity Tool, Developing a Racial Equity Action Plan, and Inclusive Outreach and Public Engagement.

James – How many people can participate? The community must be involved.

Sue and Peggi – Up to 50 people was in our original proposal agreement with Nora at GARE.

Brenda – We need a core team of frontline people to be our motivators.

James/Brenda – Participants should be government people, RETF, and community leaders.

Sue – What can we expect the City Council to ask us?

Rasham – We will be bringing everyone up to speed. We are just tweaking our work-plan to fit the times. We can ask Morgan how we implement this. How do we develop an equity lens? GARE is our starting point to integrate equity into policy and practice of the city.

Peggi – We could develop equity questions for interviews.

James – RETF needs to be part of meetings, selection processes, and interviews. We need knowledge and experience of processes of City Council. We started from nothing and learned to navigate the system.

Peggi – Should we offer our help? How can we be included?

Sue – We can comment as citizens too.

Brenda – The City Council may already be talking about this.

James – We use our best judgement in decisions that we make based on equity for all. We should not not be there because we do not have experience. We make mistakes along the way, correct them, and keep moving forward.

## **5. MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL 7/7 PREP**

Rasham – James and Brenda will be panelists and we will ask for the rest of us to join. We will present our revised work plan for GARE. Ask City Council to join the scheduled GARE introduction session, Events for Q3 and Q4.

- **Welcoming Sign**
- **Farmers' Market**
- **James' Proposed Event**

Develop a charter to become a standing committee was added to our work plan by unanimous vote.

Savanna and Sue will be the Charter Sub Committee

**6. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Sue – Send me agenda items for 7/16 meeting. It will be a special meeting so public comment is written only.

James – The time is now to move forward and fast. We need another march with RETF taking the lead.

Peggi – Can we have a check in at the next meeting? Connecting is important.

Savanna – I can find an icebreaker or activity. Connection is a big part of this.

Brenda – I had an email from Willow Tree wanting to donate profits from their sidewalk sale to us. How do we handle this? Can we ask that they send it to a partner of our event? Can we recommend a group to donate to?

Rasham – This would be a private entity donation to a public entity. We should wait for a response from the finance department.

Savanna – Should we direct donation money to a sponsor of our events?

James – We should check with the Downtown Association to support and perpetuate more events.

**7. ADJOURNMENT – 7:42 PM**

*James Friday* 7/16/2020

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Chair

Date