

Minutes

Easton Diversity & Inclusion Task Force (EDIT)

Regular Meeting

Thursday October 5, 2023 at 7:30pm

in the Easton Library Conference Room

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81074107305>

1. Call to order 7:35pm
2. Roll call
Present: Darrell Harris (co-chair), Whendi Cook Broderick (co-chair), Hilary Desmond, Elizabeth Katz, Emjek Cordover, Sheila Papps (invited guest), Paco Acosta (arrived 7:42pm).
3. Approval of minutes for August 3, 2023
Moved by Hilary that the minutes as presented be approved.
Seconded by Whendi. Passed unanimously.
4. Public comment
None received.
5. Board member comment
 - (a) Emjek
Noted that they are now going by the name Emjek (rather than Michael).
Apologized for the failure to timely provide the agenda for EDIT's September meeting to the town, resulting in the cancelation of that meeting.
The formal requirements for submitting agendas and minutes to the town were discussed.
In future, Emjek will send out a Google Doc of the draft agenda at least seven days before the meeting, and then settle it and send it to the town on the Monday before each meeting. Draft minutes will be distributed within 24 hours of the meeting, and submitted to the town thereafter.
Action: Darrell to set up a recurring Zoom meeting and provide the link to Emjek.
Action: Emjek to contact the town and ask that the website be corrected to note the September EDIT meeting was cancelled for lack of notice, rather than lack of quorum.
6. Subcommittee reports
 - (a) Programs

- (i) John has set up a spreadsheet for film/book suggestions.
- (ii) Whendi is starting to talk to the library about 2024 events.

(b) Communications
No discussion.

7. Discussion and possible action

(a) Events for fall and winter
No discussion.

(b) Collaborations to share culture through food
Sheila introduced herself as co-admin of the Taste of Easton and Redding Facebook page, which has a mission to bring together people through food.
Hilary described three possible collaborations:

- 1) working together on an event around sharing culture through food;
- 2) a Thanksgiving pie breakfast to give people an opportunity to socialize and relax on what can otherwise be a stressful and, for some, isolating day; and
- 3) a cookbook club, with a diverse range of cookbooks and each participant could cook one recipe from each month's book.

There was consensus that working on a similar event to previous events would be a good starting point, and that it should be an event focused on cultural diversity.

Sheila noted that the main thing the Taste of Easton and Redding needed in terms of support was additional people to help with any event, both planning and on the day.

The event is likely to be a Sunday in early 2024 (February or March), which was a successful timing earlier this year.

Sheila raised that expanding the event by adding some local and simple entertainment (music, storytelling etc) would be very helpful.

Potential venues were discussed, noting capacity requirements (approximately 25 people serving, approximately 200 people eating over the course of 3-4 hours), need for indoor space, need for power, and ideally access to a kitchen.

Consensus was EDIT should try to set a date and formally approve the collaboration at the November meeting, which Sheila will again attend.

Action: Paco to reach out to the seniors' center as a potential venue.

(c) Calendar scheduling

Meeting schedules for next year were discussed, with consensus being EDIT will continue to meet on the first Thursday of each month, but at the earlier time of 7pm.

Action: Whendi to circulate a list of planned meeting dates for 2024 for ratification at the next meeting.

8. Other business
No discussion.
9. Adjourn
Moved by Paco that we adjourn.
Seconded by Hilary. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 8:52pm.