

## Vision 2020 Diversity Task Group

October 19, 2015 Minutes

Present for Meeting: Claire Carswell, Louise Popkin, Sarita Duvadie, Jill E. Lewis, Jackie Slivko, Brooks Harrelson, Mary Harrison, David Landskov, Farjam Mohtadi, Allan Schramm

Minutes by Allan Schramm

### 7:00PM Social

Social time provided an opportunity for the Group to gather and meet a new member and to share activities participated in since the last meeting. Snacks brought by Farjam and others were shared. Discussion was lively.

7:30 Business Meeting Claire moderated the meeting, which opened with self-introductions. Minutes of the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting were shared and, with no additions or corrections, were Approved. Starting and ending times were discussed, with consensus accepting a scheduled social time of 6:45 – 7:00, with the meeting running from 7PM to 9PM. These times will be conveyed to the appropriate Town officials in order to schedule a meeting room and arrange for attendant to unlock and close the room at appropriate times.

Proposed restructuring of the Task Group's leadership positions was discussed. Mary presented the proposal and led the discussion. Roles were clarified. There will be an Executive Council with three members who will be facilitators and responsible for the overall management of the DTG. Membership of the Council will change as needed with an expectation that only one member will leave the Council at a time and thus will preserve continuity.

Support services for the Council will be “Secretariat” (responsible for meeting planning and logistics), “Technology” (tools for planning and Group work), and “Communications” (to promote and connect the DTG to a wider audience).

Programs/Projects ongoing and envisioned for the DTG include: Youth outreach, cultural outreach, True Story LivBrochure, Arlington Reads, Conversations, and a community wide program on “implicit bias.” The latter proposed program generated a lively discussion about presenter, target audience, and expected outcomes and ongoing activities by the DTG.

Discussion centered on advantages and disadvantages of the proposed restructuring. Advantages: Brings the Group together to work on the business of the DTG, more opportunities for more members to play an active role in the workings of the DTG, and allow for better planning and assessments of programs and Group functioning. Disadvantage: The organizational structure looks complicated and intimidating to new members. It will take time to get all of these organizational functions operating smoothly. All in all Group members were optimistic that the changes would be beneficial in the long term.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

Next meeting is November 9, 2015, at the Jefferson Cutter House with social time at 6:45 and meeting from 7 to 9PM.

Minutes Reviewed & Edited by Brooks Harrelson