

COMMITTEE ON SOLIDARITY
Special Meeting
Tuesday March 21, 2023
6:30 PM
Portland Library & Zoom B

Members Present: Glenn "PJ" Eason, Hope Jones, Nancy Goodwin, Liz Hibino.

Members Absent: Erin Livensparger, Kristy Fuller (Alt), Shelly Nolan (Alt)

Members of the Public Present: Janet Nocek, Brooke Lloyd, Jesse Revicki.

1. Hope Jones called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Some time was spent getting the zoom working.
2. Liz Hibino led the roll call and introductions.
3. **Correspondence / Public Comment:**
 - a. Information was shared re: Youth & Family Services' regional Equity Leadership Series for middle/high school students and community members. For information or to sign up, contact Jesse Revicki at Portland YFS. JRevicki@portlandct.org.
 - b. Jan Nocek shared that a survey was distributed to residents of Chatham Court to learn more about residents' needs and use of their library services. Portland resident Ana Ughetti, who has been active with the Portland Social Justice Coalition, translated the survey into Spanish.
4. **Approve Meeting Minutes: February 21, 2023:** There was a motion by Nancy Goodwin, seconded by PJ Eason to approve the minutes. Vote unanimous, motion carried.
5. **Report from Sub-Committee for Resources Brochure:** The changes discussed at the last meeting were incorporated and the brochure was sent to the First Selectman's office to be reviewed. The Town will help print the brochures when finalized. Regarding a Spanish translation, former Committee member Noel Garrett had previously mentioned asking his college students to translate the document. PJ will follow-up with Noel about this and if it doesn't work out, Liz will ask Ana Ughetti if she is available to help.
6. **Report from Sub-Committee for PRIDE event:** No updates yet. PJ Eason and Kristy Fuller are scheduled to meet this week.
7. **Report from Sub-Committee for Juneteenth:** The event will be on Saturday, June 24th at the Riverfront Park. Sub-Committee members have been researching and doing outreach re: options for food. Confirmed co-sponsors for the event include the Committee on Solidarity, Portland Social Justice Coalition, Town of Portland, Youth & Family Services and True Vine Church. Chatham Children's Connection and Grace & Mercy Church were invited but are unable to be involved this year. Discussions are still ongoing with other possible sponsors. The Sub-Committee is looking into DJs as well. Several organizations have expressed interest in tabling. A few people from the Social Justice Coalition mailing list have volunteered to help on the planning committee or at the event. The next Juneteenth Committee meeting will be Thursday March 30 at 7PM on Zoom. Confirmed and potential Co-sponsors are invited along with planning committee members.

8. **Report on Outreach to community committees and organizations:** Tabled to next meeting.
9. **Review of Task Force and Solidarity Committee Survey Actions taken:** over the next month, members will review the survey summary and choose one area they would like the Committee to focus on. At next month's meeting, we will vote on which action area to start working on first.
10. **Schedule to display Town Solidarity banners** - PJ Eason will reach out to the director of the Public Works Dept. to ask if the banners can be hung at the beginning of June like last year.
11. **Update of Chairperson and Notetaker for next 3 months:** After brief discussion, there was a motion by Nancy Goodwin seconded by Hope Jones to appoint Liz Hibino as Chairperson and PJ Eason as notetaker from April through June 2023. Vote unanimous; motion carried.
12. **Open Discussion:** None.
13. **Public comment:** Members of the public shared ideas for food trucks for the Juneteenth celebration.
14. There was a motion by Nancy Goodwin seconded by Hope Jones to adjourn the meeting at 7:56pm. Vote unanimous; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Hibino