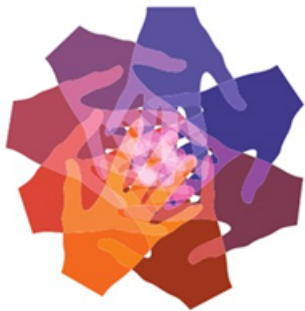


News

DEI Initiatives Update - July 20, 2020



At the Monday, June 15, 2020 Council Meeting, the City Council approved an immediate action plan to address systemic racism and injustice in Mill Valley. The plan included the establishment of a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force to review and develop additional actions, investigate best practices, and make specific recommendations to Council for next steps.

Council tasked a working group of 2 councilmembers to manage the project and put out a call to the community for participation in the DEI Task Force and recommendations for facilitators.

Since our last update on July 6, the working group has:

- Continued to receive emails indicating interest in DEI Task Force participation. We now have over 50 people that have indicated interest in participating.
- Received input from community members on key attributes and qualifications to look for in a facilitator
- Reached out to the facilitators recommended by the community to assess interest and availability.
- Interviewed close to a dozen highly qualified facilitator candidates for consideration.

Next steps include:

- The working group is finalizing the selection of a facilitator this week. The goal is to introduce the facilitator at the next upcoming City Council meeting on August 3, 2020.
- Once we have the facilitator engaged, we will move forward with the Task Force development and selection process.

The facilitator will:

- Advise on the appropriate size and composition of the Task Force to ensure it is representative of the many different facets of our community.
- Develop the Task Force scope of work
- Set the meeting schedule
- Coordinate the development of plans and priorities
- Create multiple methods for public participation beyond the task force members.

All highly qualified potential facilitators interviewed thus far have emphasized the importance of engaging in a thoughtful process and taking the time to get it right.

We acknowledge the community's sense of urgency, and desire for transparency and accountability regarding the establishment of the DEI Task Force. We affirm our commitment to make meaningful progress and to devote the time and resources to do so quickly and thoughtfully.

Update on City DEI Initiatives:

After the June 15 City Council meeting, City Manager Piombo directed City Department Heads to conduct internal reviews of current City programs and policies related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

In the last few weeks, the members of our Board and Commissions have also agendaized and discussed issues related to diversity, equity and inclusion at their meetings. This includes the Arts Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Emergency Preparedness Commission, and the Library Board of Trustees.

Upcoming meetings that may be of interest include:

- [The Housing Advisory Committee meets on July 22.](#)
- The City Council will receive an update and review of Police Department policies, training, and data as it relates to the suggested #8CANTWAIT campaign on August 3, 2020.

There is more information on other actions, and they can be found at the DEI Task Force webpage, www.cityofmillvalley.org/dei.

We encourage community members to join us at all upcoming City meetings! You can find the agendas for upcoming meetings at the City homepage, or you can sign up to receive agendas by going to www.cityofmillvalley.org/connect.

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