

Diversity Task Force Sept. 30, 2021

Senior Center

Present in person: Josh Degen, Michelle Collette, Fran Stanley, James Moore, Dierdre Slavivn-Mitchell, Susan Hughes, Raquel Majeski, Bhaskar Gupta Karpurapu. On the phone: Amy Degen. Absent: Gordon Candow. Three guests were in attendance.

Meeting was called by the chair at 7:01.

VOTE: The motion to approve the minutes of 9/9/21 as amended made by M. Collette and seconded by D. Slavin-Mitchell passed. Approved: A. Degen J. Degen, M. Collette, F. Stanley, S. Hughes, R. Majeski. Abstaining: A. Slavin-Mitchell. (J. Moore and B. Karpurapu were not members at the time.)

VOTE: The motion to approve the minutes of 8/5/21 as amended made by F. Stanley and seconded by M. Collette passed. Approved: J. Degen, M. Collette, F. Stanley, D. Slavin-Mitchell, S. Hughes, R. Majeski. Abstaining: A. Degen. (J. Moore and B. Karpurapu were not members at the time.)

J. Degen announced his resignation from the DTF, effective 10/1/21, feeling a conflict of interest between the work on the DTF and the SB, and citing his increasing work on hate speech. The DTF discussed two options, asking another SB member to join request the DTF charter be amended to eliminate a SB member from the DTF roster.

A motion that the DTF recommend to the SB to amend the DTF charge to eliminate the SB member and request the SB to create a liaison member for the DTF was made by J. Moore and seconded by D. Slavin-Mitchell. Upon discussion, a motion was made by J. Moore and seconded by D. Slavin-Mitchell to amend the original motion to delete the liaison request.

VOTE: Motion to amend the original motion that the DTF recommend to the SB to amend the DTF charge to eliminate the SB member and request the SB to create a liaison member for the DTF to delete the request to add a liaison, made by J. Moore and seconded by F. Stanley passed. Yes: F. Stanley, J. Moore, D. Slavin-Mitchell, S. Hughes, R. Majeski, B. Karpurapu. No: M. Collette. Abstaining: A. and J. Degen.

VOTE: A main motion, amended, that the DTF recommend to the SB to amend the DTF charge to eliminate the SB member was made by J. Moore and seconded by D. Slavin-Mitchell passed unanimously with A. and J. Degen abstaining.

ACTION ITEM: Raquel to send a note to M. Haddad on Monday, notifying him of the vote.

J. Degen reported that Bob Collins made a gift to the SB of \$1,000 for the DTF to be used fighting hate speech.

Next Steps for the Town Seal education campaign:

ACTION ITEM: M. Collette, J. Moore and D. Slavin-Mitchell to pull together a series of 4 dates between now and spring town meeting for the forums.

ACTION ITEM: S. Hughes to work with Michael LaTerz and Gregory Fishbone to document the history around the current seal.

ACTION ITEM: R. Majeski will attend the next Interfaith Council meeting to present the concept. B. Karpurapu will work with M. Collette to bring the Shirdi Sai Temple on board, and ask about using their space for a forum.

The next DTF meeting is 10/21/21. The meeting was adjourned by the chair at 8:24.