

Leesburg Diversity Commission
April 6, 2022
Regular Meeting Minutes

Location: Leesburg Town Hall, Lower Level Conference Room 1

Commissioners Present: Devon Carter
Dana Kunzelman
Linda McCray
Jean-Joseph Poisson

Commissioners Absent: Vanessa Maddox
Jasmin Martinez-Harris
Mary Randolph

Others Present: Officer Wael Abilmona, Leesburg Police Department

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

- Agenda was approved as presented, on a motion by Vice Chair Carter, seconded by Commissioner Poisson.

Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes of the March 9, 2022, regular meeting were approved as presented, on a motion by Commissioner Kunzelman, seconded by Commissioner Poisson.

Discussion of Community Policing Efforts: Officer Wael Abilmona

- Officer Abilmona gave the commission an overall briefing of the Town's community policing efforts, particularly within the Leesburg Mobile Park. The commission requested information on crime trend and hot spots. Discussion items included the upcoming summer camps, working with the SROs to identify issues and concerns, and the day workers who congregate at the 7-11 on Plaza Street.

Officer Abilmona invited the commission to participate in two upcoming events:

- Picnic with the Police on Sunday, May 1, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Chair McCray and Commissioner Kunzelman will represent the commission.
- National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Leesburg Mobile Park. Commission will discuss this event further at the May meeting.

The commission invited the Police Department to participate in the Employment Fair on June 26.

Commissioner Comments:

- **Commissioner Poisson** noted that it was great to hear the police engagement and would like to see more. It would be great for Leesburg PD to set the tone for social changes. Commission Poisson committed to reaching out to Rabbi Neil Tow and the Town regarding day laborers' employment permits.
- **Vice Chair Carter** said that the Community Resource Database is ready, and he will send to Ms. Arnett.
- **Commissioner Kunzelman** said she is looking forward to voting on a logo. She also would like to see the commission and PD work together to help kids through gender identity struggles, worsened by COVID. Perhaps an SRO could attend a future commission meeting.

Old Business

- **Logo.** The commission voted unanimously to adopt this logo:



- **What is Racism? Video:** Commissioners shared the video with Officer Abilmona. He will get some ideas on what is taught at the Police Academy for the commission to research.
- **Community Resources Database:** Vice Chair Carter will send the database to Ms. Arnett.

- **Employment Fair:** Vice Chair will touch base with Carol Smith on what the employers need.

New Business

- **Juneteenth BURG Family Reunion:** This event was presented as another opportunity to engage and support the community. The commission will discuss participation at the May meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 7 p.m.