

Canton, Georgia

*110 Academy Street
Canton, Georgia 30114*



Minutes - Final - Final

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

6:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Public Call In: 1-617-675-4444 PIN: 350 938 369 2625#

Diversity and Inclusion Task Force

1. Call to Order

All members in attendance as well as Mayor Bill Grant and City Manager Billy Peppers.

2. Approval of Minutes from December 1, 2020, January 19, 2021 and February 9, 2021**A. Diversity and Inclusion Task Force Draft Minutes - Attachments 2A**

Attachments: [Minutes - Diversity and Inclusion Task Force - December 1, 2020](#)
[Minutes - Diversity and Inclusion Task Force - January 19, 2021](#)
[Minutes - Diversity and Inclusion Task Force - February 9, 2021](#)

Aragon moved to approve the minutes for December 1, 2020, January 19, 2021, and February 9, 2021. Shannon Rankins seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Discussion of Bringing Awareness to Issues Through Cultural Diversity Education

The group discussed cultural education opportunities. Ideas included a Facebook Live meet and greet with the Task Force to outline the mission of the group and introduce the members to the community. This could create public feedback for future FB Live sessions. The group decided that they wished to create their own Facebook Group. Mr. Rankins and Ms. Reveles agreed to help set that up. Members were asked to send biographies in during the next week. An idea was discussed to generate a calendar of posts that could be approved corporately by the Task Force.

4. Discussion of Creating Environments for Constructive Dialogue

Under the topic of creating environments for dialogue, the Task Force discussed ideas such as less formal food related events, such as shared tables, potlucks, and diverse dishes cooking classes. The Task Force also discussed a "Face(s) of Canton Campaign" to highlight the diversity of residents.

5. Discussion of Possibly Hosting Virtual Diversity Dialogues

The Task Force discussed possible options for virtual dialogues, including topic based conversations and resource discussions. Ms. Bird and Mr. Hill will spearhead this work.

6. Discussion of Bringing Minority Communities into the Discussion

Some of the ideas for bringing the minority voices into the discussion included cultural events, recognizing culturally significant months and holidays, using

social media, and including more diverse options for existing City events. Mr. Aragon will assist in this effort.

7. Discussion of Providing a Support Role to the City Staff by Meeting with Staff and Hearing What Concerns/Issues They Would Like to Discuss

Ms. Aragon reinforced the discussion of the Task Force at the last meeting related to the Non-Discrimination Ordinance. The Task Force wishes to be an advisory group to the City on an NDO drafted by and passed along by the City Council. Mr. Hill will update the Council.

Ms. Aragon noted that she would like to see the group provide assistance to groups that experience discrimination. The group would like to hear from Police Chief Merrifield at a future meeting about engagement and operations specifically related to minority residents. Additionally, the City Manager was asked to find literature for the Spanish speaking community related to vaccination and ways to disseminate this information to the public.

8. Adjourn

The Task Force stood adjourned at 7:20 p.m.