

COMMITTEE ON SOLIDARITY

Special Meeting

Tuesday January 9th, 2024

6:00 PM Portland Library & Zoom B

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

Members Absent: Erin Livensparger, Tina Prakash, Shelly Nolan (Alternate),
Kristy Fuller

Members of the Public Present: Courtney Fitzkee, Jan Nocek, Lieutenant
Matthew Solak

1. **Liz Hibino called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.**
2. **Liz Hibino led the roll call**
3. **Approve Agenda:** Nancy Goodwin motioned to approve agenda, Seconded by Glenn Eason, voted unanimously.
4. **Presentation by Lieutenant Matthew Solak on the Social Work in Law Enforcement Project:** Lieutenant Matthew Solak discussed the Social Work in Law Enforcement (SWLE) Project. Detailing how the program started, has grown, and how it can benefit our community like it has many others in the state. **The Social Work & Law Enforcement (SWLE) Project is dedicated to advancing the ethical and effective integration of social work services into law enforcement agencies by preparing social workers and social work students to assume roles in the emerging field of police social work.** More information can be found at <http://swleproject.com/>
5. **Correspondence/Public Comment:** None
6. **Approve Meeting Minutes: November 27th, 2023** Nancy Goodwin motioned to approve minutes, Seconded by Liz Hibino and voted unanimously.
7. **Donations and Budget Update:** \$200 Dollar Donation from The Friends and Family of PC for Spring Stonewall Speakers Event.
8. **Pride:** Hope Jones motioned to utilize the \$200 for The Stonewall Speaker Panel in the Spring of 2024. Seconded by Nancy Goodwin, voted unanimously. The next workgroup will be on 3/2/24 at 11am, in the Portland Library.
9. **Juneteenth:** Meeting with Dr. Britton, Eric Martin, and Bob Shea was postponed due to weather. Possibly being rescheduled for Thursday 1/11. Meeting was to review which areas we can use at the School for Juneteenth.
10. **Black History Month Event:** Meeting was postponed. Event will be on 2/24 at 1pm. Looking to Reserve Brownstone Auditorium (2/25 Snow Date) Panel Event with the Historical Society and local residents discussing Black History of Portland. Highlighting 60's and 70's redevelopment. Discussed looking into recording the event and oral histories of Portland as a podcast. Liz will add Podcast to the agenda. Discussed Martin Luther King Day events in Hebron (Dinner and Discussion) and Glastonbury (Celebration). Will reach out to the Town to update the website with Martin Luther King info.
11. **Vote on Committee Roles: Chairperson, Assistant Chair, Notetaker:** Hope Jones motioned to keep committee roles the same for 3 months and Nancy Goodwin Seconded, unanimously voted.
12. **Solidarity in the Community**

- a. **Outreach to Community:** Nancy Goodwin, will continue to notify Rivereast of upcoming meetings and events. Black History Month Event (Save the Date).
 - b. **Survey follow-up actions:** Following up on survey items: Lack of female officers in the Police department and lack of in town social workers associated with the police department for crisis calls. Will follow up with information provided by Matt and will add discussion of information to the agenda.
 - c. **Town events and meetings:** We will continue to work on getting to more town meetings. The Board of Selectman Reporter will ensure they ask the board if there is anything they want us to focus on. Glenn Eason and Liz Hibino will work on attending more Board of Ed meetings.
 - d. **Review Sign-up for reporting to Board of Selectmen Meetings:** Liz Hibino will attend January Meeting: January, 17th at 7pm. Hope Jones will attend the February 21st meeting. Glenn Eason will attend the March 20th Meeting.
13. **Open Discussion:** Discussed ways to find new members. Hope Jones suggested adding a note on the town website about opening. Nancy Goodwin will discuss openings for the committee with DTC. Nancy Goodwin will start research on the process for changing the Board of Selectmen to a gender neutral name.
14. **Public Comment: None**
15. **Liz Hibino Motioned to Adjourned at 7:44pm**, 2nd by Nancy Goodwin, voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Glenn "PJ" Eason