

# COMMITTEE ON SOLIDARITY

[PortlandCTSolidarity@gmail.com](mailto:PortlandCTSolidarity@gmail.com)

## Regular Meeting

**Tuesday April 9th, 2024 7:00 PM**

Portland Senior Center, 7 Waverly Avenue, Portland Connecticut 06480

In-person and Zoom B -- **ID: 352 700 8408 Password: 113ct**

Members Present: Glenn "PJ" Eason, Liz Hibino, Cindy Tyler, Hope Jones

Members Absent: Kristy Fuller, Tina Prakash, Shelly Nolan (Alternate), Nancy Goodwin

Members of the Public Present: Jennifer Billingsley

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1. Call Meeting to Order: Liz Hibino called meeting to order at 7:05pm
2. Roll Call: Liz Hibino lead roll call and introductions.
3. Approve Agenda: Glenn Eason motioned to approve agenda Seconded by Cindy Tyler and voted unanimously.
4. Correspondence/Public Comment: Liz Hibino reviewed annual ethics training with the committee to ensure we all had the powerpoint and certificate of completion form. Liz Hibino reached out to DTC regarding nominating Emily Horn for the Committee on Solidarity.
5. Approve Meeting Minutes: March 12, 2024: Liz Hibino motioned to approve minutes, Seconded by Hope Jones and voted unanimously.
6. Donations and budget: Will discuss within Juneteenth Agenda Item
7. Pride Events: Glenn Eason reviewed the Stonewall Speaker event, which will be on 4/20 1pm at Portland Library's Mary Flood Room for Adults and Youths 11 and up. Pride workgroup met on 4/4 and planned to promote the event by placing flyers around town, emailing the PJSC, promoting on social media, and publishing in the Rivereast. Registered to march in Middletown Pride Parade on June 1st. Website to rsvp to march is PORTLANDPRIDERSVP.COM. Will have public sign decorating on 5/11 at 1 to 2pm at the Portland Library. Discussed using "flyer" spelling in minutes versus "flier". Discussed continuously reaching out to Rivereast for all Committee on Solidarity announcements. Cindy Tyler will create samples of a potential Solidarity Corner for future tidbits, facts, and thought provoking items to share in Rivereast.
8. Juneteenth: Liz Hibino shared the final Juneteenth flyer with the committee. Del Printing donated flyers for the Juneteenth event. Vendors will pay a \$25 donation to the Committee and the town will waive their permit fee for the event. Reviewed the brochure advertisement form and donation structure: \$15 for business card size, \$25 for half page size, and \$45 for full page ad. Deadline for advertisements will be May 1st. Liz Hibino discussed searching for more food

vendors and will reach out to Exchange Club, Fire Department, and Top Dog. Reviewed performers for Juneteenth and potential cost of performers. The next Juneteenth Meeting will be April 15th at 1230pm.

9. Gallery of Portland: Local Black history / oral history projects: Susan Bransfield and Jennifer Billingsley met with Connecticut Humanities and were encouraged to apply for a grant not a sponsorship. The deadline is May 1st, which is tight but they will continue to evaluate grant ideas. Discussed the possibility of a Voices of Portland podcast session with Gallery of Portland panelists leading up to the February 2025 Black History Panel event.
10. Social Work in Law Enforcement (SWLE): Liz Hibino, Courtney Fitzkee, and Emily Horn met with Samantha Inniss, the Integrated Police Social Work Specialist for Municipalities for the SWLE Project. They discussed ideas for Portland, which Liz will share with us during future meetings.
11. State of Black America (SOBA) Report : Liz Hibino will add the report to the next PSJC newsletter and add to the PSJC facebook. Cindy Tyler wants to find a way to see how this report compares to Portland and get other perspectives on this topic. Jennifer Billingsley offered to have hardcopies made for distribution at the library. Committee members will read the SOBA report and think of ideas on how to utilize and share this information. The SOBA report can be found here: [https://nul.org/sites/default/files/2024-02/NUL\\_SOBA2024\\_Executive\\_Summary\\_web.pdf](https://nul.org/sites/default/files/2024-02/NUL_SOBA2024_Executive_Summary_web.pdf)
12. Solidarity in the Community
  - a. Outreach to community, new members: Continue outreach to Rivereast and Portland Housing Authority newsletter.
  - b. Survey follow-up actions: Continue SWLE evaluation and ideas. Review SOBA reports and discuss best ways to share and utilize information.
  - c. Town events and meetings, sign-ups for Board of Selectmen meetings: Liz Hibino will attend BOS meeting on April 17th, Cindy Tyler will attend on May 15th, Hope Jones will attend on June 19th.
13. Open Discussion: Glenn Eason and Liz Hibino thanked Cindy Tyler for her contributions. Cindy Tyler agreed to work with the SWLE workgroup.
14. Public Comment: Discussed possibly changing meeting times during summer concert series.
15. Adjourn Meeting: Cindy Tyler motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:38pm, Seconded by Glenn Eason and voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Glenn "PJ" Eason