

DRAFT

Minutes, West Tisbury Task Force Against Discrimination Meeting September 12, 2023

Meeting called to order: 5:08 P.M.

Present: Susanna J. Sturgis, Ted Jochsberger, Terry Kriedman, Loren Ghiglione, Elaine Cawley Weintraub. **Absent with regrets:** Alexandra Pratt

The **minutes** for the August 1, 2023, meeting were **approved**. (Ted motion, Susanna second)

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Loren contacted the Wampanoag tribe council concerning the Land Acknowledgement Statement. He has not received a response at this writing, Ted pointed out that they may have been busy preparing for the powwow last weekend. It was also suggested that the weather may have been a factor.

How should we go about attracting potential members?

- Jen Rand should be contacted with regard to an advertisement. (Terry and Loren both indicated that they responded to an ad to join the Committee).
- Members should reach out to personal contacts.
- Ted suggested that flyers be posted on the Town bulletin boards. (Post Office, Conroy's, Cronig's, etc.). Susanna will work on this.
- Susanna will bring it up to the NAACP.
- It was noted that members do not have to live in West Tisbury, working in Town or being involved in some way with the Town might be sufficient. (Serving as administrator on a Town committee, involved with the Town in some manner, e.g. the library or perhaps a former resident, etc.). There are a number of constituencies that are not represented on the Committee. These include (but are not limited to) clergy, police and other emergency personnel, attorneys, etc. There are several educators (or former educators). Loren asked if conflicts of interest could be a problem. (For example, if an issue was discussed concerning the Library, would this be a problem for Alexandra). According to Tara Whiting, in such cases the Committee member could recuse themselves. Susanna will talk to Brad to see if a police office is interested. Elaine will reach out to the Charter school and Loren will reach out to the principal of the West Tisbury School. Susanna will contact Toni Kauffman of the NAACP.

Grievance procedure: What would it look like, and what should be the Task Force's role?

- The question arose if we could, as a committee, formalize grievance procedures (or other issues, not only workplace) in cases where there are no other venues. It was noted that there would be considerations of confidentiality, legality, etc.

Seeing White on Martha's Vineyard

- Susanna is planning to organize a program – *Seeing White on Martha's Vineyard*. There are some other programs being planned. Information will be forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 P.M. (Loren motion, Ted second)

Respectfully submitted.
Ted Jochsberger
Recorder *pro tem*