



OBSERVER REPORT

Task Force Against Discrimination-4-27-23 Zoom

LWVM Observer: Shari Pressman

Members in Attendance-Diane Gora(co-chair), Deacon John (Joe) Whipple, Chris Bruell, Candice Sliney, Reece Dahlberg, Kim Gubelman, Chief of Police Dennis King (ex-officio)

Also present: Jay Morrison, Marblehead Racial Justice rep. to TFAD

1. Welcome and Introductions; New Member

Diane Gora opened the meeting by having each member introduce themselves to new member Kim Gubelman; Kim teaches in the Computer Sciences Dept. at Northeastern and has two young children.

2. Update on Police Department News

Chief King reported no new incidents. The Village School incident report is nearing conclusion and will be made public at that time. He also spoke about the meeting for police chiefs at the Holocaust Museum in Washington,D.C. last week to learn about the role of police during the Holocaust and the role of police in present time. King described it as an “unbelievable” experience.

3. Report on Marblehead Public Schools

Candice reported that both Student Representatives, who were not present at the meeting, attended the New England Youth Congress concerning making schools safer.

4. Update on Juneteenth Celebration—Wednesday, June 14 beginning at 4:30

The celebration will begin with drumming and storytelling with Greg Coles. A Select Board member will offer opening remarks, followed by reflections from the Reverend Andre Bennett, Pastor of Youth and Young Adults at

Zion Baptist Church in Lynn, and Nicole Mclain, founder of the North Shore Juneteenth Celebration.

5. Update-Marblehead Pride Day- Reece
Flag Raising on Saturday, June 3 at 3:00pm (rain date on June 10) on the Abbot Hall lawn. A celebration at the Beacon, 123 Pleasant St., is planned. See thebeaconmarblehead.com for details and reservations.
6. Update on Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15-October 15 was postponed until the next meeting.
7. Racial Justice Team-
The annual exchange of portraits of John Lewis and Harriet Tubman is scheduled for Friday, May 5 at 8:30 am at Glover School. The entire 1st grade will sing. Jay noted Conversations on Race continues Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30 in person at the Marblehead Museum and via Zoom.
8. Future Agenda Items
 - a.) A motion to form a Subcommittee for a TFAD booth at the Festival of Arts this summer was unanimously approved. Chris, Reece, and Kim will explore activities for a TFAD booth and continue conversations with Jodi-Tatiana Charles, president of the 2023 MFofA.
 - b.) Diane will register TFAD for the Marblehead Chamber of Commerce and Discover Marblehead Spring Celebration on Saturday, May 13 at the National Grand Bank parking lot from 12-3.
 - c.) Jack Attridge, Town Moderator, will read the Town of Marblehead Land Acknowledgement at the opening of Town Meeting
9. Next meeting date: Either May 18 or May 25