

# City of Worcester Human Rights Commission Subcommittee Meeting on the Dialogues on Race

Meeting Summary for Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 City Hall Room 310B (3<sup>rd</sup> flr, enter through room 309)

Members Present: Shawna Curran, Izaida Gonzalez, and Robyn Kennedy

Staff: Jayna Turchek

#### 1. Call to order and introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm

#### 2. Chairperson Report

Chairperson Curran reported to the group on the meeting she attended for the City Managers Bias and Hate Coalition Subcommittee on the Race Dialogues. She shared with the Commission Subcommittee the notes that were produced by the Coalition Subcommittee which highlighted the themes that emerged from the dialogues, as well as action steps that are already being taken through the City Manager's report.

Chairperson Curran also shared with the Subcommittee that the Coalition Subcommittee agreed that once their work plan was created, organizations and representatives of the Coalition Subcommittee would share the plan with their own boards and agencies as well as with other organizations to ensure they are sharing their efforts as broadly as possible. The Subcommittee discussed and agreed that we would also join that effort.

### 3. Discussion of work plan, timeline and pace

The Subcommittee discussed and it was agreed that we would align our work and our efforts with the Coalition Subcommittee work plan. It was noted that the Coalition anticipates releasing their work plan in the next month.

The Subcommittee discussed several options for aligning our work with the Coalition Subcommittee. It was decided that we would propose to the Human Rights Commission that themes relating to policy, programs and work of the City Administration, starting with the notes





from Representative Government and Public Safety would be our focus. With the support of the full Commission, Chairperson Curran will share that with the Coalition Subcommittee at their next meeting.

The Subcommittee discussed different options and strategies to engage the media in our work to ensure that we are clear and transparent in communicating with the community the steps that are being discussed and further opportunities for public participation. It was decided that we would again align our efforts to have media interaction and public participation in line with the Coalition Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee will also seek the support of the Commission to have Chairperson Curran regularly attend the Coalition Subcommittee as a representative of the Human Rights Commission.

## 4. Adjournment at 8:05pm