

Indigenous Peoples Day Committee meeting

March 23, 2020

Remote via Zoom

Minutes

Committee members present: Artur Conquest, Larry Onie, Felina Silver Robinson, Maya Norton, Raul Fernandez; Select Board liaison, Caitlin Starr; ODICR staff

1. Discussion of email and phone list - Caitlin will send a list of members' emails and numbers.
2. Petition to Rep Vitolo
 - a. Initially this committee had discussed that Rep. Vitolo doesn't support the replacement of Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day on the State level and would like to do a petition in collaboration with BHA students who were interested and willing to work on a campaign.
 - i. Maya and Kea had a chance to speak with Rep. Vitolo and after speaking feel that a petition would not help our efforts.
 - ii. Rep. Vitolo did mention that he does support a bill to study the change to the seal on the MA State flag.
3. Regional Planning Group for 2021 Celebrations
 - a. Maya informed the committee that a group has been formed and they anticipate meeting soon.
 - b. Committee discussed requesting BCF funding to compensate a consultant of the regional team to assist in designing and planning efforts around Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations.
 - c. This Committee currently has \$1000 to fund programs/events
4. What is it this committee wants to do?
 - a. We, as a committee, still need to address this question. The committee needs goals and objectives and have the ability to address the issues. What should we/could we do?
 - i. Recommendations included:
 1. Provide more of a historical platform for the current issues of racism
 2. enhance the role of Indigneous People and history in the school curriculum.
 3. Address the systems through an educational and structural perspective.
5. Land Acknowledgement Warrant Article
 - a. Maya and Barbara can present; others welcome to present.

- b. Maya has done a lot of research in what to include in a land acknowledgement statement and is willing to work on draft.
 - c. Raul will give Raquel a call about the statement and see if NAICOB has any edits/suggestions.
 - d. SB meeting to present the Warrant Article is April 20th
6. Next Meeting TBD