

CDICR - Community Engagement Subcommittee

July 30, 2021

Present: Malcolm Doldron, Joan Lancourt, Kea van der Ziel, Shana Penna, Jonathan Golden

Other: Caitlin Starr (ODICR), Ashley Eng (BAAFN)

Public: Ann Hess Braga

### Minutes

1. 7/16 minutes approved
2. CE Plan Update
  - a. Community Engagement Strategist off, no report sent
  - b. Brief Discussion of the opening of the Racial Equity Advancement Fund – CDICR should have a seat on the grant committee
  - c. Caitlin gave a brief Disparity Report Working Group update
    - i. The Working Group has collected data and information and made recommendations on 8 of the 15 measures identified. Caitlin and intern will be taking the report to the Brookline Commission on Disability to get feedback and the group will begin to hold organized community engagement forums to get feedback from various community groups on the recommendations made before finalizing the report by November.
    - ii. Joan commented on the added benefit of shared information and creating sense of community among service providers and building new links and relationships.
3. Guest: Ashley Eng (Brookline Asian American Family Network)
  - a. Ashley is a BHS Alum and a Student Leader of the BAAFN Steering Committee.
  - b. Ashley shared that [BAAFN](#) is a BPS family network for supporting AAPI families and students in the community.
    - i. BAAFN has also done advocacy/policy work for the community such as advocating for the Asian American Studies Course in the High School when it was almost canceled, helping students advocate for making the Lunar New Year a Category One holiday, and working on a curriculum on Anti-Asian Racism in the schools.
  - c. Discussion of Community Engagement Plan and BAAFN Feedback
    - i. Language Access should be in “Rights” section. There is a need for Language Access across Town Departments as part of Racial Equity.
      1. Caitlin shared a small group was meeting the following week to discuss a Language Access Policy/possibly warrant article.
    - ii. The importance of representation of Asian and Asian American individuals in Decision Making Groups (specifically TMM)
    - iii. How is this document shared with community that *isn't currently engaged*? How do you plan to reach them?
      1. How to shift the perception of meaningful impact?
      2. Education around gov't processes
      3. Talk to already engaged members of the AAPI community
        - a. Ann Braga mentioned being able to start this with Employee Resource Groups (a recommendation in the Disparity Report)
    - iv. The idea that the responsibility is on yourself/need more inclusive language

1. For example: explicitly provide examples on how people can participate in decision making (not just voting).
4. Community Organization List Dissemination
    - a. [Community Org List created by CE Subcommittee](#)
    - b. Cover letter re: list to all orgs on list. In the cover letter discuss the benefit of the list, how to use it, and also ask them to let committee know of any updates or other ideas on how this kind of list could be helpful to them.
    - c. Start scheduling times to go to THEIR meetings and talk about CE plan and “Rights and Responsibilities”. Start Going Out!
      - i. Faith Based Orgs/Clergy Association
      - ii. Chamber
      - iii. Teen Center (September “convening” with ODICR and Teen Center)
      - iv. Women Thriving (let Caitlin know when would like to attend a Board Meeting)
  5. Next Meeting
    - a. **Friday August 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:30AM**