

**RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: April 1, 2022
TIME: 9:28 AM

Town of Belmont Diversity Task Force

Meeting Minutes

3/31/2022

Present: Kimberly Haley-Jackson, Julie Wu, Roger Fussa, Sharon Rich, Denise LaPolla,
Pritha Mitra-Stiff, Lixin Qin

Final meeting

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 4:01. Sharon Rich seconded.

2. Approval of meeting minutes

Meeting minutes reviewed and approved for

2/17/22 Approved. Denise abstained as was not present

2/23/22 Spelling of Pritha's name corrected. Approved.

2/28/22 Denise LaPolla's name removed as attendee, as she was not present.
Approved.

3/8/22 Approved by those present at that meeting.

3/21/22 8:30AM Date corrected in body of text to March 21, 22. Lixin abstained as
was not present. Approved

3/21/22 8pm Approved

No meeting minutes required for 3/16/22 as there was not quorum

3. Sharon Rich announced Transgender Day of Visibility and acknowledged hard work of the
LGBTQ+ Alliance in setting it up.

4. Select Board presentation

Kim thanked the group for their hard work and the good reception of the Select
Board.

5. Town Meeting presentation

Kim accepted Julie's suggestion to put data first before recommendations. Kim and
others will present. Not sure of the date.

6. Discussion between Tomi Olson and Kim regarding the report—Tomi said she had heard
some people felt it was anti-white and that hate incidents like Henry Tapia's murder were
exaggerated. Kim explained that the report led with facts and was not anti-white.

- a. Proposal to meet with the Diversity Task Force members and Tomi's group—not
sure what that group is.

- b. Discussion—Roger wonders should this be a public forum? Kim thinks Tomi and her group would prefer a social gathering.
- c. There was an article in the Citizen-Herald derived from the Select Board presentation that leads with the town demographics.
- d. The version of the report linked to in the paper is version 1, in which seniors are referred to as “elderly.”
- e. Kim noted that most feedback has been positive. Denise found Lisa Pargoli’s email offensive. We noted that she agreed with the recommendations regarding businesses.
- f. Agreed we will meet with Tomi’s group after the Diversity Task Force has disbanded, in a social gathering.

Meeting adjourned. 4:58pm

Minutes from 3/31/2022 approved.