

Immigrant Advancement Committee of CDICR

Minutes for January 11, 2022

Present: Jessica Chicco, Shubha Dixit, Roberta Falke, Eric Hardt, Joan Lancourt, Tina Li, Bishnu Tamang, Lloyd Gellineu (ODICR)

Voting on Minutes

Minutes from November approved. Vote: Roberta-y, Tina -y, Eric – y, Shubha – y, Bishnu – abstain, Jessica - y

Updates

- Implementation of Language Access Warrant Article
 - o Lloyd talking with HR to come up with a job description for the language access coordinator. Town needs to get a consultant come in and do an analysis and to see how much it will cost. One of primary roles is to make sure we stay current with the needs. Reviewing similar job descriptions from other towns.
 - o Will see a lot more movement moving forward once we have an understanding of the job description and the consultant gets hired. It will take at least 3-4 months to hire someone.
 - o Eric noted that the person filling this position should be bilingual and bicultural, with experience as an interpreter.
 - o Suggestions on consultants should be sent to Lloyd.
- Lunar New Year is on 2/1, a virtual celebration is planned.

Roll out of resource document

- Reviewed document. Jessica will format it and share it with group for final approval next week.
- We will need to come up with a plan for distribution. Will ask Lloyd to link it from the town's website.

Discussion of immigrant community engagement on ARPA funding

- The Brookline Community Foundation (BCF) will be offering technical assistance to any group or people who want to write a proposal for ARPA money. Will be running a series of sessions that are open to whoever wants to attend to walk people through proposal writing process.
- BCF reached 140 people in listening sessions, 15 focus groups of about another 150, and an online survey with 430 responses. Reached about 700 people. Did a focus group in Brookline Housing Authority. Sessions were very interactive – short presentation.
- Should look into whether other organizations have intentionally engaged with immigrants
- Women Thriving did one session with 8 women participating

Closing announcements:

- Announcement from Women Thriving: 2 Asian women English classes starting soon, and Bishnu will be speaking on MLK day!

Next meeting on February 8 at 7:30pm