

Indigenous Peoples Day Committee

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Remote via ZOOM

DRAFT Minutes

Committee members present: Arthur Conquest, Maya Norton, Felina Silver Robinson, Kea van der Ziel, Raquel Halsey; Caitlin Starr (ODICR)

Committee member absent: Larry Onie

Members of the public: Lizzie Buhl (BHS teacher), Isis Contreras (BHS junior), Abby Kushner (BHS junior)

Meeting called to order at 3:03 PM

Membership on committee offered to students

1. Minutes of 5/11/21 approved – AC -y, MN -y, FSR – y, Kv/dZ – y
2. Update on land/historical acknowledgement at Town Meeting, passed 203-20 with 14 abstentions
3. Juneteenth celebration, 6/19 from 10 AM – 8 PM. Gather at Florida Ruffin Ridley School at 10 AM. Walk to Brookline Ave Playground (at Lynch Center) planned where there will be tabling from 12 – 2 PM, food trucks, vendors, etc. ODICR will have table. Felina and Kea plan to be there to help.
4. NAICOB plans a series of COVID vaccination days at the Center in partnership with MA DPH, no registration required.
5. Isis and Abby spoke about their work on incorporating Indigenous history in the history curriculum at BHS, also reading lists on same topics for English classes. The intention is that the various departments at BHS will collaborate on making Indigenous issues part of their curricula. Lizzie is working on lessons to be taught in days prior to Indigenous Peoples Day. Raquel asked if there would be a possibility of teaching Native wisdom and Indigenous ecological knowledge in the science classes. Reggi Alkiewicz (ralkiewicz@naicob.com) is working on this and has contacts with links to appropriate legislators.
6. NAICOB is putting together something regarding Line 3, a pipeline in Minnesota, currently in the news. NAICOB also working on a legislative agenda.
7. Discussion of the IPD event – would want to avoid IPD itself due to Marathon running through Brookline.
 - a. Maya has plans to meet with her contact at Cultural Survival to discuss a collaboration of multiple municipalities for a joint event
 - b. NAICOB is open to in person events, Manoa, last years' caterer is catering, other Native food trucks and Native chefs, vendors could be available for an event on the weekend of IPD. Caitlin will check on availability of the Ridley School for both indoor and outdoor use. Raquel to check on vendors, etc.
 - c. Possibility of having activities/events throughout Indigenous Peoples Month in November
 - d. Todd Kirrane of the DPW is interested in collaborating on more passive events throughout the town, involving a small number of people at multiple locations. The rainbow painting of crosswalks for Pride Month as an example. Possibility of raising a banner over the Marathon with something like "Brookline Celebrates Indigenous Peoples Day". Caitlin will speak to Raul Fernandez and Todd.
 - e. Public library is another venue for displays and collaboration.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 PM.

Next meeting 7/6 at 3 PM, likely will be in person due to pandemic orders to be lifted, Caitlin to check with Larry and Arthur