

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Meeting

Date: February 16, 2022, 10:30 AM

Location: Central VA WDB Offices  
828 Main St., 12th Floor  
Lynchburg, VA 24504



# Meeting Minutes

## I. Welcome & Introductions:

**Members Present:** Renee Chalmers (Chair), Shawne Farmer, Jennifer Kohn, Cheryl Toler, Sterling Wilder, Christian Wiscovitch,

**Members Absent:** Nate Mahanes (Excused)

**Staff Present:** Traci Blido, Lori Cumbo

Renee welcomed attendees and promptly stated the meeting at 10:35 am.

## II. Approval of 1-19-22 Meeting Minutes

The motion was made by Sterling Wilder and seconded by Christian Wiscovitch, to approve the January 19, 2022, meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

## III. Outcomes/Updates:

- a) Orientation Video dubbed in Spanish – Renee provided an update to the committee. Christian will work with Tim Saunders to complete this project.
- b) New Member Recruitment: Ethel Reeves has agreed to join the committee. Lori will forward on future meeting invites. No new suggestions for additional members were given.
- c) Scheduling DARS DEI Consultant as a speaker for a future meeting: Christian spoke with William Sutton, Interim-Diversity, and Inclusion Consultant with DARS, and will follow up with him about speaking at a future DEI Committee meeting.

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Traci will follow up with Preston Sellers, DSS, about speaking at a future DEI Committee meeting.

- d) VA Access & Equity Committee Initiatives – Lori reached out to the state’s VA Access & Equity Committee and has not received feedback to date.
- e) Request for Resources: Hispanic Church Group (Christian); Korean Pastor’s Coalition (Lori); Christian continues to work with his connections within the Hispanic Church and Propio document translations. Lori made a connection with the Matthew Summers, Liberty Office of Equity, and Inclusion. Mr. Summers will be forwarding on contact information for local contacts within the local Korean Church and community.
- f) VEC efforts to target underserved populations: Renee advised VEC has an established VEC partnership with local community centers and provides career services at libraries in the region.
- g) EO/ADA Walk through of VCW Lynchburg Center: Christian completed a walkthrough of the VCW Lynchburg Center and will forward his notes back to committee members.

### IV. Homework Check In (1-19-22)

- a) Takeaways from LinkedIn Learning “Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging” with Pat Waders. – the committee discussed the video and takeaways. Takeaways included the DIBS Index (<https://www.linkedin.com/learning/diversity-inclusion-and-belonging-2019/measure-with-a-dibs-index>) which stands for Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Index and discussed how this could be useful for regional employers.
- b) Review of Virginia Career Works Central Region website – This topic was tabled until the next DEI committee meeting.

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### V. Open Comments/New Items up for discussion

- a) Renee requested members share with her via email ideas for Committee Goals and future speakers/topics for future meetings.

### VI. Closing Comments

- a) The next meeting (virtual) is scheduled for 3/16/22 at 10:30.

**VII. Adjourn:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.