TOWN OF BOLTON BOLTON DIVERSITY COMMISSION March 15, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Call-In Number: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 898 8840 3469

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Public Participation
- 3. Approval of Minutes
- 4. DEI Community Assessment Surveys
 - a. Update from Board of Selectmen Meeting
 - b. Review of marketing materials
 - c. Survey Distribution Plan
 - i. Role, responsibilities, timelines
- 5. Discussion of Other Commission Activities
- 6. Summary of Assigned Tasks
- 7. Adjournment

Next Meeting- April 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

TOWN OF BOLTON

BOLTON DIVERSITY COMMISSION

February 15, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The Diversity Commission met on February 15, 2022 with the Chair Amanda Gordon presiding. Also in attendance were: Vice Chair Kawan Gordon, Cheryl Udin, Jennifer Cyr, John Toomey, Rhea Klein, Anne Decker, Dan Bergin, and Paula Meyers. Also in attendance was First Selectman Pam Sawyer

1. Call to Order

a) A. Gordon Called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

2. Public Comment

- b) Chris Davey Chris previously researched, and in 2021 shared to Facebook, a history of Black residents in Bolton. He offered to make available his research on the history of Bolton's non-white populations for the committee to use. The link: HTTPS://tinyurl.com/9r3e7nd7
- c) Rod Fournier Attended the meeting as he is considering Joining as a committee member

3. Introductions - New Members -

d) New member Dan Bergin introduced himself

4. Approval of Minutes

a) Motion: I move that we accept the minutes of 1/18/22

By: Cheryl Udin Second: Rhea Klein

• Voting For - 8 in favor

• Abstained – 1 abstention – Dan Bergin

5. Review of Data From FOIA

- e) The committee reviewed the information J. Toomey received from Dept. of Emergency Serv. And Public Protection legal affairs:
 - 0 incidents of hate crime in 2016-2021
 - A Newspaper article J. Toomey found indicates 2 incidents of crimes against Asian-Americans in 2020. Could not find anything to support this nor anything to reconcile to the information he received through the FOIA request

6. Review of Surveys

- a) Youth Survey Draft
 - Discussed the draft Youth Survey that was prepared
- b) Adult Survey
 - Discussed the draft Adult Survey that was prepared
- c) Distribution Plan Discussed a potential distribution plan:
 - Locations advertise and make accessible through:
 - a. All Town social media platforms (town Facebook pages, town Instagram), as well as personal Social media.
 - b. Town bulletin
 - c. Electronic "School Backpack" program, for nonschool-related distributions
 - d. Small businesses, with permission, with possible QR code?
 - Modalities
 - a. Google Doc
 - b. Hard Copies (available at library and Sr. Center)
 - c. Possible version in Spanish
 - Timeline

- a. Finalize survey 2/22/22 at special meeting
- b. Present to BOS for approval at 3/1/22 meeting
- c. Accept completed Surveys for about 2 months
- d. Analyze data and present findings May- until completion

7. Discussion of Other Commission Activities

a) Tabled this item for future meeting

8. Summary of Assigned Tasks -

- a) Survey to be tweaked by subcommittee members for final review at special meeting to be held on 2/22/22 at 6pm
- b) P. Meyers to investigate getting the survey translated into Spanish
- c) Youth Survey Subcommittee to review survey with Superintended K. Heckt for possible support/ recommendations

9. Adjournment

a) Adjourned meeting by consensus at 8:43

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Meyers

Paula Meyers

Please see minutes of subsequent meetings for corrections to these minutes and any corrections hereto.

TOWN OF BOLTON BOLTON DIVERSITY COMMISSION Special Meeting February 22, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86552970223?pwd=N3IIcE5zejB6TIJtU3ZYbmIhZW01dz

Call-In Number: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 865 5297 0223 Passcode: 612441

The Diversity Commission held a Special Meeting on February 22, 2022 for purposes of finalizing the Town Survey. Chair Amanda Gordon presided over the meeting. Also, in attendance were: Vice Chair Kawan Gordon, Jennifer Cyr, John Toomey, Rhea Klein, Anne Decker, Milton Ives, Cheryl Udin, and Paula Meyers.

- 1. Call to Order
 - a. A Gordon Called the meeting to Order at 6:02 pm
- 2. Review and Finalization of Community Surveys
 - a. Youth Survey
 - i. The Committee reviewed the Youth Survey
 - b. Adult Survey
 - i. The Committee reviewed the Adult Survey
 - c. Distribution Plan
 - i. The Committee reviewed the distribution plan
 - d. **Motion**: I move that the 2 surveys and distribution plan be shared with the BOS with the changes as outlined in our discussion
 - By: Milton Ives

Second Anne Decker

- Voting For 9 in favor
- No dissensions or abstentions

3. Summary of Assigned Tasks

a. A. Decker and A. Gordon will work on finalizing surveys for presentation to the Board of Selectmen

b. A. Gordon and A. Decker will work on flyer

4. Adjournment

a. Adjourned meeting by consensus at 7:25

Next Meeting- March 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Meyers
Paula Meyers

School Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Survey

The Bolton Board of Selectmen recently authorized the creation of a town Diversity Commission. We are conducting a survey about your experiences in Bolton Schools. The purpose of this study is to gather information from students to help us identify strengths and challenges related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

All questions on this survey are entirely voluntary, but we are asking you to please help us by providing this important information so that we can fully understand survey results.

Your answers will be completely confidential and survey results will be reported in aggregate form only. We are not collecting any names or other personally identifying information.

This survey should take about 5 minutes to complete.



amandadgordon86@gmail.com (not shared) Switch account



DIVERSITY



1. How often do you spend time AT SCHOOL with students from different						
	Never	Sometimes	Undecided/Not sure	Frequently	Almost always	
Races, ethnicities, or cultures	0	0	0	0	0	
Sexual orientation or gender identities	0	0	0	0	0	
Abilities (physical, intellectual, developmental, neurodiverse, emotional, behavioral)	0	0	0	0	0	



	Never	Sometimes	Undecided/Not sure	Frequently	Almost always			
Races, ethnicities, or cultures	0	0	0	0	0			
Sexual orientation or gender identities	0	0	0	0	0			
Abilities (physical, intellectual, developmental, neurodiverse, emotional, behavioral)	0	0	0	0	0			
3. In your opinior cultures and dive			esented in class	es reflect the	broad			
Never								
Somewhat								
Undecided/No	ot sure							
Frequently								



4. How often do you think about what someone of a different race, ethnicity, or culture experiences?
Never
O Sometimes
Undecided/Not sure
Frequently
Almost always
5. How do you feel about this statement: "I believe that Bolton schools are diverse."
Strongly DISAGREE
O Disagree
Undecided
Strongly AGREE
5a. Do you have anything to add to your response in question 5?
Your answer
INCLUSION



6. How well do people at your school understand you as a person?
Not at all
Somewhat
Undecided/Not sure
Quite
Extremely
7 How composted do you feel to the adults at your calcula
7. How connected do you feel to the adults at your school?
Not at all connected
Somewhat connected
Undecided/Not sure
Quite connected
Extremely connected
8. Do you feel comfortable seeking help from the adults in school if you have a concern?
No, not at all
Somewhat
Undecided/Not sure
Quite
Yes, extremely

	Strongly DISAGREE	Disagree	Undecided/Not sure	Agree	Strongly AGREE
I am respected by other students	0	0	0	0	0
Students who are LGBTQIA+ are welcome at my school. (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, non-binary, intersex, asexual)	0	0	0	0	0
Students who are NON- NATIVE ENGLISH SPEAKERS are welcome at my school.	0	0	0	0	0
Students from DIFFERENT RACES, ETHNICITIES, AND CULTURES are welcome at my school.	0	0	0	0	0
Students with SPECIAL NEEDS OR DISABILITIES are welcome at my school.	0	0	0	0	0
I feel like I belong in my	0	0	0	0	0

school community	
9a. Do you have anything to add to your responses in question 9?	
Your answer	

EQUITY



10. Please evaluate the following statements:						
	Strongly DISAGREE	Disagree	Undecided/Not sure	Agree	Strongly AGREE	
ADULTS treat people from different races, cultures, gender identities, or abilities fairly	0	0	0	0	0	
OTHER STUDENTS treat people from different races, cultures, gender identities, or abilities fairly	0	0	0	0	0	
All students can access school events regardless of ability to pay	0	0	0	0	0	
Rules apply to everyone equally	0	0	0	0	0	
I am provided the resources to succeed to my fullest potential	0	0	0	0	0	



10a. Do you have anything to add to your responses in question 10?					
Your answer					
11. In your opinion, are discussions about educational equity in your school important to you? (Educational equity means that each student receives what they need to develop to their full academic and social potential)					
O Not important					
Somewhat important					
Undecided/Not sure					
Quite important					
Extremely important					
12. Are there equal expectations for students of all backgrounds and levels of academic performance?					
Almost never					
○ Sometimes					
Undecided/Not sure					
Frequently					
Almost always					



13. Would you recommend the Bolton Schools to someone in a different town? Why or why not?
Your answer
14. What else would you like to tell us about your experience in Bolton Public Schools as it relates to diversity?
Your answer
DEMOGRAPHICS This survey is entirely anonymous. All answers are private and not associated with names or any other personally identifying information.
What is your grade level?
Grade 7-8
Grade 9-10
Grade 11-12
Transition



Check all that apply to you.
Female
Male Male
Transgender
Questioning
Gender non-conforming or Non-binary
Prefer not to answer
Other:
Check all that apply to you.
Asian
Black or African American
Latino or Hispanic
Native American or Indigenous
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
White or Caucasian
Prefer not to answer
Are you fluent in English?
Yes
○ No



What languages do you speak other than English? Your answer
Do you live in Bolton?
○ Yes
○ No
If you live in Bolton, how long have you lived here?
Your answer
If you don't live in Bolton, where do you live?
Your answer

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Bolton, CT - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Community Survey (18 Years of Age and Older)

The Bolton Board of Selectmen recently authorized the creation of a Diversity Commission. We are conducting a survey about your experiences in our local community. The purpose of this study is to gather information from people who currently live, work or have lived, worked and gone to school in our community to help us identify strengths and challenges related to diversity, equity and inclusion. Each person should only submit one survey, though each individual in a household may submit their own survey. Please check out this link https://forms.gle/v79D6EDW1StLjKJU7 or those in middle school and high school who would like to contribute their thoughts.

We recognize that we're asking a lot of demographics questions -- this is both to make sure we hear from a diverse group of people, as well as to understand differences in experience. All questions on this survey are entirely voluntary, but we are asking you to please help us by providing this critical information so that we can fully understand survey results.

Your answers will be completely confidential and survey results will be reported in aggregate form only and made available to the public via the town website. Please note that at the end of this survey you have the OPTION to provide your personal information if you would like to be contacted by a Diversity Commission member to be more involved or share further information with us. An alternative way of reaching out to us is also provided. This survey should take you about 10-15 minutes to complete.

Sincerely,

Bolton Diversity Commission

1) Please rate Bolton on each of the following	Poor	Fair	Don't Know	Good	Excellent
Making all residents feel welcome					
Attracting people from diverse backgrounds to live, work or own businesses in Bolton					
Valuing and demonstrating respect for residents from diverse backgrounds					
Treating all residents fairly					
Providing a safe and secure environment for residents of all backgrounds					
Providing equal employment opportunities to residents of all backgrounds					
Providing equal access to housing for residents of all backgrounds					
Welcoming residents from all backgrounds to participate in local government and community decision-making					
Creating awareness of Bolton's diversity					
Offering gathering places for diverse groups to get together					

2) Please rate the Bolton TOWN GOVERNMENT on each of the following	Poor	Fair	Don't Know	Good	Excellent
Creating a community welcoming to residents of all backgrounds					
Treating all residents with respect					
Treating all residents fairly					
Providing opportunities for residents with different opinions to voice their concerns					
Providing translated materials on the Town website and through Town departments					
Ensuring the town is well-designed for individuals with differing abilities to get around freely, and participate fully in the community.					
3) Please rate the Bolton SCHOOL SYSTEM on each of the following	Poor	Fair	Don't Know	Good	Excellent
Creating a community welcoming to residents of all backgrounds					
Treating all residents with respect					
Treating all residents fairly					
Providing opportunities for residents with different opinions to voice their concerns					
Providing translated materials on the Town website and through Town departments					
4) Please rate the Bolton LAW ENFORCEMENT on each of the following	Poor	Fair	Don't Know	Good	Excellent
Creating a community welcoming to residents of all backgrounds					
Treating all residents with respect					
Treating all residents fairly					
		-	-		

 Please rate how the Bolton community does with ensuring the following groups of people feel welcome in Bolton. 	Poor	Fair	Don't Know	Good	Excellent
People with differing abilities (physical, intellectual, developmental, neurodiverse, emotional, behavioral)					
People who identify as transgender, non-binary or gender non- conforming.					
People who identify as male					
People who identify as female					
People who identify as belonging to a minority/marginalized race/ ethnicity (i.e. Black, Asian, Indigenous, Arabic, Latin(o)(a)(x), etc.)					
People whose first language is not English					
People who are not U.S. citizens					
People of non Christian faiths					
People who are veterans or military personnel					
People who are older					
People who are younger					
People who have lower income levels					
6) Please choose the answer that matches your view:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Don't Know	Agree	Strongly Agree
I can be my full, authentic self in Bolton.					
I am likely to recommend living in Bolton to a friend or family member who asks					
I can raise issues about unfair treatment without fear of consequences					
I feel a sense of belonging in Bolton.					
I encourage people in Bolton to share their unique perspectives and experiences related to their background					
I frequently ask a person from a different group (race/ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ability, etc.) about how my behavior has impacted them.					
I frequently interact with people from other backgrounds in Bolton					

_			-		erienced di		n	Yes	No		Don't Know
based on e	based on each of the following in the Town of Bolton in the past 5 years?										
	Age Gender Identit										
					0.0	Race					
				Natio	nal Origin (E						
						Religi					
					Polit	ical Affiliati					
					Differing P	hysical Abil	lity				
			Differing	g Intellectu	al/Develop	mental Abil	lity				
			Dif	ffering Emo	otional/Beh						
					Sexu	al Orientati	ion				
8) Please o	choose a n	umber on t	he scale ba	ased on ho	w much div	ersity YOU	J feel	Bolton s	hould h	ave, wi	th (1) being
					ink Bolton'						
Much	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	Much
Less						Ö		<u>,</u>			More
Diversity											Diversity
9) Please o	describe a	couple of B	olton's str	engths wit	h respect to	diversity,	equi	ity, or inc	lusion.		
10) Please	describe	couple of	Rolton's ch	nallenges w	vith respect	to diversit	tv or	nuity or i	nclusio	n	
10) Flease	uescribe a	couple of	DOILOII S CI	ialieliges w	vitii respect	. to diversit	ty, et	quity, or i	iiciusioi	1.	
information	on about yo	our experie	nce: 1) bar	rriers to fu	g in the Tov lly participa ities, 3) exp	iting in the	Bolt	on comm	nunity, 2	2) perso	nally felt you

12) We invite you to please share any positive/uplifting experiences you have had in Bolton related to diversity, equity and inclusion.
13) We invite you to please provide suggestions you may have for how Bolton can be a stronger more inclusive community and/or to provide a more welcoming environment for people of all backgrounds.
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Demographic Questions
The following questions will ask you about how you identify yourself and will be used to ensure that we receive survey responses from a diverse pool of residents.
14) Which category reflects your age group?
□ 18-24
□ 25-34 □ 35-44
□ 45-54 □ 55-64
□ 65-74 □ 75+
L 75+
15) What is your racial/ ethnic identity? (Choose all that apply)
□ Spanish, Hispanic, or Latin(o)(a)(x)□ Arabic or Middle Eastern
☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native ☐ Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander
□ Black or African American
□ White □ Other
16) Is English your first/preferred language?
□ Yes
□ No
17) Which best describes your country of origin?
☐ My country of origin is the USA☐ I am originally from another country

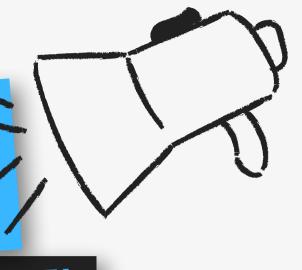
18)	What is your gender identity?
	Male
	Female
	Transgender
	Questioning
	Gender Non-Conforming or Non-Binary
	Other
19)	Which term best describes your sexual orientation?
	Asexual
	Bisexual
	Gay/Lesbian
	Heterosexual
_	
	Pansexual
	Queer
	Other
_	Are/Were you a member of the U.S. Armed forces?
	I have not been in the military
Ш	Active Military
	Reservist
	ROTC
	Veteran
21)	What is your highest completed level of education? Some High School High School Graduate or GED Some College/ Technical Degree/Associates Degree Bachelor's Degree Master's Degree Doctoral or Professional Degree
22)	Roughly what Area Median Income range does your annual household income fall into? Below 30% of the AMI (< \$22K for an individual or \$31K for a family of 4)
	Between 30-50% of the AMI (\$22K-\$36.5K for an individual, \$31K-\$52K for a family of 4)
	Between 50-80% of the AMI (\$36.5K-\$56K for an individual, \$52K - \$80K for a family of 4)
	Between 80-120% of the AMI (\$56K-\$84K for an individual, or \$80k-\$120K for a family of 4)
	Greater than 120% of the AMI (>\$84K for an individual, or >\$120K for a family of 4)
-	Do you have a physical, mental, or emotional condition that impacts and/or shapes your participation in work society? Yes No

24) How would you characterize your political views? Far Left Liberal Moderate Conservative Far Right Undecided Other	
25) What is your religious or spiritual identity? Agnostic/ Atheist Buddhist Christian Hindu Jewish Muslim Sikh Spiritual but no religious affiliation No affiliation Other	
26) Do you have any other comments or suggestions you would like to share?	
27) If you would like to be contacted to share more information about your experiences in Bolton please put your name and contact information (phone or email) below. If you want to be contacted but do not wish to have your identity associated with these survey results, you may email the Bolton Diversity Commission chair at AmandaDGordon@gmail.com.	
28) What is your current 5 digit zip code?	
29) Please let us know which of the following applies to you. I am a current resident of Bolton, CT I currently work in Bolton, CT but am not a resident. I am a prior resident of Bolton, CT. I previously worked in Bolton, CT. I was a previous student in Bolton, CT. None of the above.	

30) I	f a prior resident, student or employee in Bolton, how long ago did you live, work or go to
scho	ool in Bolton?
	Within the last 2 years
	3- 5 years ago
	5-10 years ago
	10-15 years ago
	15-25 years ago
	More than 25 years ago



The Bolton Board of Selectmen would like to invite you to have your voice heard!



















US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS!

Hardcopy surveys can be obtained at the Bentley Library, Town Hall or the Senior Center.

RESPONSES ACCEPTED MARCH 15TH - MAY 15TH, 2022.

SURVEYS RESPONSES ARE ANONYMOUS AND COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL.

Survey created for distribution by the Bolton Diversity Commission.



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Bolton?

The Bolton Board of Selectman invites you to respond to our Diversity Survey

CLICK THE LINK ABOVE TO TAKE THE SURVEY!

Responses will be accepted March 15-May 15th, 2022.

Hard copies may be obtained at the Bentley Library, the Town Hall or the Senior Center Survey responses are anonymous and completely confidential. Results will be shared with the public.