



# Town of Newmarket

## Minutes

### Newmarket Anti-Black Racism Task Force

Date: Tuesday, May 4, 2021  
Time: 4:00 PM  
Location: Electronic VIA ZOOM  
See How to Login Guide

Members Present: Jerisha Grant-Hall  
Nadia Hansen  
Councillor Bisanz (4:56 PM to 5:14 PM)  
Councillor Broome  
Claudius Brown  
Holly Douglass  
Gavin Gunter  
Gary Miranda  
Councillor Morrison  
Opiyo Oloya  
Maxine Gordon Palomino  
Kimberly Roach (4:19 PM to 5:11 PM)  
Leslie Serieux

Members Absent: Lori-Anne Beckford

Staff Present: Jennifer Rose, Healthy Program Workplace Specialist  
Kiran Saini, Deputy Town Clerk  
J. Grossi, Legislative Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM.  
Jerisha Grant-Hall in the Chair.

#### 1. Notice

Jerisha Grant-Hall advised that all Town facilities were closed to the public, and that members of the public were encouraged to attend by joining through the ZOOM information provided with the agenda.

**2. Additions & Corrections to the Agenda**

None.

**3. Conflict of Interest Declarations**

None.

**4. Presentations**

None.

**5. Deputations**

None.

**6. Approval of Minutes**

**6.1 Newmarket Anti-Black Racism Task Force Meeting Minutes - April 6, 2021**

Moved by: Opiyo Oloya  
Seconded by: Nadia Hansen

1. That the Newmarket Anti-Black Racism Task Force Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2021 be approved.

**Carried**

**7. Items**

**7.1 Affirmation**

Jerisha Grant-Hall provided an affirmation and acknowledged ancestors who paved the way for the work that the Task Force is contributing to. She acknowledged the uncertainty of the times we live in and how it acts as a reminder of what our ancestors went through. She closed with a reminder that the road to healing started long ago and that the power, resilience, pain and wisdom of our ancestors is within all of us.

**7.2 Reports from Subcommittees**

Gavin Gunter provided an update on behalf of subcommittee #1 and advised that he would be circulating a draft of the interim report to Council. He talked about some of the key themes that have emerged thus far, and

provided a preliminary overview of the structure of the report. Gavin advised he would lead compiling the report together for the Task Force, and reminded all subcommittees to provide their relevant sections to include with the report.

Leslie Serieux and Jerisha Grant-Hall provided an update on behalf of subcommittee #2. Leslie advised that they are working on summarizing their thoughts for the interim report. Jerisha advised of the key themes that have emerged from the survey and that may form part of the Task Force's recommendations to Council: 1. Black Leadership (Council representation, employment, recruitment, hiring, promotion and retention); 2. Education (campaign, awareness, training); 3. Black youth (mentorship and pathway planning); 4. Community engagement; 5. Representation and recognition; 6. Culture change; 7. Income inequality/disparity; 8. Support for Black-owned businesses; 9. Town policies and procedures; 10. Cross-municipal and Cross sector work (Town working with York Regional Police, School Boards and other municipalities); 11. Acknowledgement and mechanism for reporting and accountability; 12. Periodic townhalls and surveys; 13. Internal Town equity, diversity and inclusion committee; and, 14. Policing practices.

Holly Douglass provided an update on behalf of subcommittee #3 and acknowledged their review of the survey results also echoed issues surrounding education, a lack of sense of belonging, and affordability and accessibility of programming services.

### **7.3 Interim Report to Council**

There was discussion regarding the interim report and reminders of deadlines for submitting the report and presentation to staff for inclusion on the May 25 Committee of the Whole agenda.

Jaclyn Grossi provided an overview of the various chart and stylistic options to display survey results for non-open ended questions. Jerisha advised that she will work with Jaclyn to assist with grouping responses for the question related to race and ethnicity. It was noted that these charts would be prepared for the final report to Council and would not be included as part of the interim report.

## **8. New Business**

### **(1) Pan African Flag**

Councillor Broome advised that Bradford developed a Pan African flag for Black History Month this year, and advised that she would provide this information to Jerisha as the Chair of NACCA for consideration for collaboration for 2022.

**9. Adjournment**

Moved by: Leslie Serieux  
Seconded by: Councillor Morrison

1. That the meeting be adjourned at 5:14 PM.

**Carried**

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Jerisha Grant-Hall, Chair

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Date