Ad Hoc Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 6:30 pm
Woodbridge Library Meeting Room

Present: Co-Chair Tahera Parvez, Steven Lawrence, Lor Ferrante Fernandes, Mohini Ranganathan

Guest: Peter Downhour, DEI Coach at Amity Regional High School

1. Chair Parvez called the meeting to order at 6:42 pm. (There was not a meeting quorum.) It was noted that Javier Aviles resigned from DEI. He was appointed to the Board of Finance.

2. Opening Circle
   Mohini Ranganathan opened the meeting by reading a Facebook post. The post suggests that ongoing intentional work by individuals leaves space and balance for everyone regardless of group identity.

3. Outreach Initiatives and Updates
   DEI members participated in a variety of activities held in December and January including: the Vigil Against Hate & Anti-Semitism, the December Amity BOE Meeting and the recent MLK celebration with a community gospel choir held at B’nai Jacob.

   Continuing to attend Amity BOE meetings was discussed noting the next meeting is February 12.

   Results of the Student Climate Survey available on the Amity Regional High School website were discussed.

4. 2024 Goals
   For 2024 goals, the three areas of focus will include education, community building, and communication. Many activities will likely “touch” more than one area of focus. Discussion ensued.

   The next DEI event, to be held February 28, will offer an opportunity to raise awareness and community conversation relating to apparent and non-apparent disabilities. Event details will be forthcoming.
5. **Woodbridge Like Me Day**: 2024 planning deferred to next meeting.

6. **November Minutes**: Vote deferred to next meeting as there was not a quorum.

7. **2024 Meeting Schedule**: Vote deferred to next meeting as there was not a quorum.

8. **Volunteer for Next Opening Circle**: Ellen Scaletter

9. Meeting adjourned at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted: **Toni Belenski**