



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

DIVERSITY AFFAIRS AND INCLUSIVENESS COMMITTEE

PORTAGE COUNTY ANNEX
CONFERENCE ROOMS 1 & 2
1462 STRONGS AVENUE
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

Thursday, February 9, 2023

5:00 PM

REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial 1-872-242-7813 , after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 692 035 191, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Click Here To Join Meeting](#)

CALL TO ORDER

The Diversity Affairs and Inclusiveness Committee meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by Vincent Miresse

Members Present: Vincent Miresse, Jennifer Bushman, Joan Honl, Andrew Rockman, Valerie Hartman, Miguel Campos

Members Excused: Dustin Moen

Staff Attending: Robin Falk, Laura Belanger

Others Attending: Jack Elsinger, Fred Kalkofen, Colin Kobishop, Supervisor Al Haga

PUBLIC NOTICE

Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Joan Honl, seconded by Jennifer Bushman, to approve the November 2022 minutes . Motion to approve carried by unanimous voice vote, with no negative votes.

1. November 2022 Minutes

REPORTS

2.
 1. Chair
 2. Committee
 3. Staff

Chair Miresse gave his reasons for canceling the last two committee meetings, which included family illness and concerns regarding Vice-Chair Bushman's legal ability to chair committee meetings in his absence. Chair Miresse reported that Corporation Counsel had been consulted after the fact, and that it was confirmed that Vice-Chair Bushman is fully capable of chairing the committee meeting in the absence of the Chair.

CORRESPONDENCE

3.
 1. Elevance Health- Why Do We Need Health Equity

<https://www.elevancehealth.com/our-approach-to-health/health-equity/why-we-need-health-equity>

2. Rural Health Research RECAP- Healthcare Access and Status Among Rural Children

<https://www.ruralhealthresearch.org/assets/2997-11862/healthcare-access-and-status-among-children.pdf>

3. Fierce Healthcare- Inaugural EY Health Equity Survey Finds Eagerness for Cross-Sector Collaboration, But Gaps in Strategy

<https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/inaugural-ernstyoung-health-equity-survey-finds-gaps-stakeholder-strategies>

4. Advancing Equity With Data

<https://www.census.gov/about/what/data-equity.html>

5. Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Office of Health Equity

<https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/ohe/index.htm>

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

4. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Regarding Special Meeting Attendance (Portage County Ordinance 3.1.47 & 3.1.48)
 - Request for special meeting attendance
 - Request from Chair Miresse to attend MSTC DEI Conference in April
<https://www.mstc.edu/news/diversity-equity-and-inclusion-conference-coming-to-midstate-technical-college>
 - Approval of attendance of special meetings
 - Special meeting attendance reports

A motion was made by Miguel Campos, seconded by Jennifer Bushman, to approve Chair Miresse's request to attend the MSTC DEI conference in April. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

A motion was made by Andrew Rockman, seconded by Miguel Campos to approve Chair Miresse's Expense Report for the December 12, 2022 workshop he attended. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

5. Portage County Website: Currently English-only view, recommended options to translate into multiple languages with new design

Staff reported that the County has already included a translation feature as a requirement for any new website design going forward.

6. Portage County Job Openings Page: English language only view, recommend options to translate into multiple languages to attract and retain qualified candidates

Staff reported that the Job Openings Page, as part of the County website, would also be able to be translated after the website is redesigned.

7. Gaps in Health Equity survey among Portage County Departments

The committee discussed submitting questions for a potential Portage County staff survey. Committee members will submit questions to Executive Office staff to collate for inclusion in next meeting's agenda.

8. Should Portage County hire a Health Equity Officer to focus on countywide strategy to narrow health equity strategy gaps?

Jennifer Bushman stated that Health Equity Officers are usually MDs. Discussion ensued regarding the likelihood of the County retaining a staff physician.

9. Committee Goal Setting/ Benchmarking

NEXT MEETING DATE

March 9th at 5:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Joan Honl, seconded by Jennifer Bushman, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote.
Meeting adjourned at 6:39pm

Notice: Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting in-person or remotely should contact the Facilities Office at 715-346-1598 as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made.

Notice: A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors, or any committee thereof, may be present at this meeting.