

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 7, 2021
Via ZOOM (Details Below)

Immediately Following a Special Meeting to Commence at 7:00 p.m.

AMENDED AGENDA

1.
 - a) Call Meeting to Order
 - b) Additional Agenda & Consent Calendar Items
 - c) Delegations
 - d) Approval of Minutes
 - e) Consent Calendar
2. New Business
 - a) Special Appropriation CNRE – PD Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) - \$35,929
3. Presentation – SCORE
4. Discussion and Possible Action – Apply FEMA and American Rescue Plan Funds to 2021/2022 Budget Capital
5.
 - a) Ex-Officio Reports
 - b) First Selectman’s Report
6. Public Comment
7. Selectman’s Response
8. Adjourn

East Lyme is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Meeting

Topic: Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Time: Apr 7, 2021 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84694754394?pwd=WFQ2ZUZtRmpjWThOL3ZUdS9qdXY3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 846 9475 4394
Passcode: 06357

Dial by your location
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/k7RA9fwU4>

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2021
MINUTES

This meeting was held via Zoom online meeting services and was available for the public to view, listen and participate via videoconference and dial-in options.

This meeting, in its entirety, is available to view by visiting the East Lyme Town Hall webpage.

PRESENT: Mark Nickerson, Kevin Seery, Rose Ann Hardy, Paul Dagle and Dan Cunningham

EXCUSED: Marc Salerno

ALSO PRESENT: Finance Director Anna Johnson

Mr. Nickerson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1b. Additional Agenda Items

There were none.

1c. Delegations

There were none.

1d. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (1)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Special Budget Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2021, as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Dagle. Motion passed 5-0.

MOTION (2)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2021, as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. Motion passed 5-0.

MOTION (3)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Special Budget Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2021, as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. Motion passed 5-0.

MOTION (4)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Special Budget Meeting Minutes of February 24, 2021, as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Dagle. Motion passed 5-0.

1e. Consent Calendar

MOTION (5)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of March 17, 2021, in the amount of \$6,685.71.

Seconded by Mr. Dagle. Motion passed 5-0.

2a. Transfer Funds – Dispatch Overtime - \$30,000.00

MOTION (6)

DISCUSSION: Lt. Macek reported that there have been two full time dispatchers out for extended medical leave. Since we currently have a limited number of part-time dispatchers available, the empty shifts must be filled with full-time employees on overtime. He noted that because the department has had a couple of retirements recently, there is a little extra funds in the salary account so that is where the money will be transferred from.

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve a transfer in the amount of \$30,000.00 from Police Officers account 01-25-216-100-511 to Dispatch Overtime account 01-25-215-100-214 effective April 1, 2021 and forward to the Board of Finance for approval.

Seconded by Ms. Hardy. Motion passed 5-0.

2b. Special Appropriation – Building Dept - \$21,800

MOTION (7)

DISCUSSION: Mr. Way was present to discuss this item. Ms. Hardy inquired if any new employees would be hired, and Mr. Way stated that no new employees are being hired and the existing building inspectors will be increasing their hours by one day per week each. He noted that they are non-union, unbenefited employees. The additional funds for the Admin/Clerical will be to increase the part-time clerical assistant's hours. Ms. Hardy asked if the increase in workload is due to new construction or renovations to existing structures, and Mr. Way stated that it is a combination of new construction, such as the Gateway project, and a lot of home renovations being done since the pandemic started.

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve a special appropriation in the amount of \$21,800 as follows to the following expenditure accounts: \$3,000 to 01-01-104-100-311 (Admin/Clerical) and \$18,800 to 01-01-104-100-212 (Building Official) and, \$21,800 to revenue account: 01-05-500-501 (Building Permits) and forward to the Board of Finance for approval. This resolution is passed under the guidance of Executive Order 7S with no town meeting and being less than 10% of the current budget.

Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. Motion passed 5-0.

2c. Special Appropriation/Contingency Transfer – Niantic FD - \$27,470

MOTION (8)

DISCUSSION: Niantic Fire Chief Barone stated that they currently have a full-time fire fighter out on medical leave, and by contract the other full-time fire fighters have the right of first refusal to fill those shifts before they ask a part-time employee. The overtime account will need to be funded to cover the cost of these overtime shifts.

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve a special appropriation and transfer in the amount of \$27,470 from account 01-01-120-200-500 (Contingency) to account 01-25-217-100-614 OT NFD and forward to the Board of Finance for approval.

Seconded by Mr. Dagle. Motion passed 5-0.

2d. 2021/2022 Long Range CIP Plan

MOTION (9)

DISCUSSION: Mr. Nickerson stated that before they begin the discussion on the CIP, he wanted to share some preliminary information about the American Rescue Plan. He reported that both the Town and the Board of Education are each expected to receive approximately \$1.8 Million to be distributed in two waves; 50% allocated in about 90 days, with the remaining 50% to be distributed in a year from now. The Town will also receive an additional \$3 Million to be paid in two installments also; this is allocated as "county" funds and is divided per capita, per person. He stated that he wanted to throw that out there so that the Board might consider these available, unexpected funds whilst discussing the Capital Improvement Plan.

The Capital Improvement Plan was reviewed line by line, making note of the following items.

Department 102 Assessor –The Town puts money away yearly to prepare for the next revaluation; we are present in the middle of the current revaluation.

Department 104 Building – The current, hard copy filing system that the Town is using is outdated and requires an upgrade to a digital system in the next fiscal year.

Department 105 Engineering – The Town puts money away yearly for the CAD software and survey equipment.

Department 109 IT – The Town puts money away yearly for the continual upkeep and replacement of Town computers and servers.

Department 110 Registrars – For the purchase of laptop computers for electronic voting check-in, as required by state and federal regulations.

Department 113 Building Maintenance – Mr. Bragaw explained that LoCIP funds will be set aside in next year's budget for some town wide parking lot repairs/resealing: specifically, Bridebrook Park, the upper driveway and parking area of Cini Park, and the employee parking lot of the Field Services Building (FSB). We also put money away yearly for town-wide roof and HVAC pump replacement.

Department 214 Emergency Management – Mr. Nickerson stated that the Town's microwave radio communication system needs to be upgraded in a couple of years, so we are planning for that expense.

Department 216 Police – Lt. Macek explained that last year they replaced the motor on the 21' skiff and that this year they are working with Waterford to try to secure grant money to replace the motor on the larger regional boat. We will continue to put the full funds aside just in case, but the hope is that we receive the grant at which time the Town's responsibility of 25% would be around \$8,000.

Department 217 Niantic Fire Department – Chief Barone reported that the listed expenses are needs and not wants; the engine truck is over 29 years old and needs to be replaced as soon as possible and he will be back once he has narrowed down the exact vehicle they would like to purchase. It was noted that both fire departments have a standard replacement schedule for equipment, which is clearly outlined in the plan.

Department 224 Fire Marshal – Mr. Way explained that there are over 200 knox boxes around town that allows the Fire Marshal and fire department personnel to access town buildings as well as commercial buildings throughout town in the case of an emergency. The Fire Marshal and his staff will replace these boxes themselves over time.

Department 317 Public Works – Mr. Bragaw reported that the line item for vehicles/equipment is for two vehicles, a garbage truck and a dump truck. Both trucks are used daily and are in desperate need of being replaced for a total of \$429,500. We need to replace our supply of recycling carts or cans, which are sold to residents at \$110 per unit; our current supply needs being replenished. The cost of town-wide sidewalk replacement is being allotted for in the CNRE account, and the major road work that is scheduled to be performed this season is estimated at \$850,000 and he has a detailed schedule on how that work will be performed, starting with Dean Road and other smaller neighborhoods in that area, and Grassy Hill Road to the Montville town line. He reviewed the LoCIP fund projects and noted that these need to be listed in our capital projects list for us to be eligible for the funds should they become available.

Department 421 Parks & Recreation – Mr. Putnam noted that the only expense for this year's budget is the request to replace the pickup truck with a lift gate and snowplow package, which is a 2008 model and needs to be replaced.

Department 999 Board of Education – Mr. Newton and Mr. Lund were present to review the Board of Education's proposed capital plan, which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. Mr. Dagle inquired about the windows and doors replacement costs, and Mr. Lund stated that the windows replacement estimate of \$30,000 is a good estimate, but the doors may come in a little higher than the projected \$50,000 depending on the outcome of their investigation of materials used. Mr. Nickerson noted that there is \$500,000 proposed is the technology acquisition plan, and this will need to stay in place even though we increased our technology over the pandemic as the existing equipment will need to continue to be replaced and upgraded. Mr. Newton stated that a big chunk of the technology to be replaced with this money are the smart boards. Mr. Nickerson stated that we may be able to use some of the American Rescue Plan funds for some of these technology needs and that this will be discussed more as we learn more about this plan.

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the 2021/2022 Capital Improvement Plan, as submitted, and forward to the Board of Finance.

Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. Motion passed 5-0.

2e. American Rescue Plan

Mr. Nickerson stated that he has gotten word that East Lyme is expected to receive the first installment of \$900K in approximately 90 days of the \$1.8M allocated to us under the American Rescue Plan. He is recommending that this Board begin reviewing the parameters on how these funds can be used, and that we possibly create a subcommittee or investigate workshops to be thorough in the discussion. He stated that he would like to schedule a special meeting for next week to begin the discussion; he noted that this money cannot be used to reduce the mil rate or reduce operating expenses. It was agreed that a special meeting would be held on Wednesday, March 24th at 7pm.

3a. Ex-Officio Reports

Ms. Hardy reported that the Senior Center vans were vandalized for a second time, and the catalytic converters were stolen again. Fortunately, the new van did not have any parts stolen as it is a newer vehicle, and the parts are different; and Mr. Nickerson stated that they are looking for a more secure place to keep the vehicles going forward. She reported that they have programs lined up for the spring and are waiting for the word that they can go ahead and resume normal programming. Ms. Hardy reported that at their last meeting the Zoning Commission unanimously approved an application on Boston Post Road to modify the former rectory building. The Commission on Natural Resources is working on getting information out on the proper plants to put in to encourage the work of the Pollinator Pathway. Ms. Hardy stated that she is concerned that there does not appear to be any money put away for future purchases of open space.

3b. First Selectman's Report

Mr. Nickerson stated that the Niantic River Bridge is scheduled to re-open by 8am tomorrow morning, with one more scheduled closure during the project for just a couple of days. He stated that at an upcoming meeting they will hear from SCORE, the Southeastern Connecticut Organization for Racial Equality, as well as another group organized through the Sustainability CT program to discuss racial equality and inclusion in our community. He stated that we will have a special meeting next week to include a discussion on the American Rescue Plan, as well as a legislative update by Senator Paul Formica and State Rep Holly Cheeseman.

4. Public Comment

Mr. Joe Mingo, 394 Boston Post Road, East Lyme, stated that he would like to see the Board of Selectman go back to doing the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each meeting. Mr. Mingo would like to see the Tree Warden evaluate more trees in town for removal.

5. Selectman's Response

There was none.

MOTION (10)

Mr. Seery MOVED to adjourn the March 17, 2021, regular meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen at 9:11 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Dagle. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sandra Anderson
Recording Secretary

Request for Board of Selectmen Action

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Lt. Michael K. Macek #903
DATE: 03/24/2021
SUBJECT: Special Appropriation in the amount of \$35,929.00 Police Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) replacement.

Summary of Agenda Item:

The East Lyme Police Department (ELPD) is in need of replacing eight (8) Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) units to become compliant with the State of Connecticut Criminal Justice Information Sharing (CJIS) Information Technology (IT) requirements. MDT's are the computers that are used in the police patrol vehicles and are essential to daily police patrol operations. The current replacement plan consists of MDT units being replaced when new vehicles are purchased. However, due to IT compliance, we will not be able to meet the demand with the current replacement schedule.

Source of Funds: CNRE (*From Police Fees Collected*)

32-60-120-100-003	(Police Vehicle & Equipment from Fees)	Balance:	\$44,836
	Plus: Fees Received YTD as of 3/25/21		72,604
	Plus: Fees Billed but not Received as of 3/25/21		4,511
	<u>TOTAL Available as of 3/25/21</u>		<u>\$121,951</u>

Action Needed:

Move to approve a special appropriation and use of \$35,929 from CNRE Fund 32, account 32-60-120-100-003 (Police Vehicles and Equipment from Fees) and forward to the Board of Finance for approval. This resolution is passed under the guidance of Executive Order 7S with no town meeting and being less than 1% of the current budget.

Attachments:

None

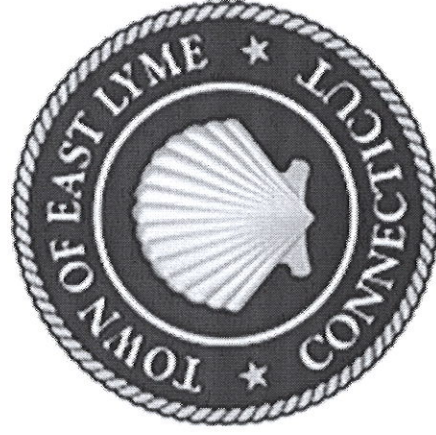
Prepared By: Lt. Michael K. Macek #903 ELPD

Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis: Adopting a Resolution

April 7, 2021

SCORE

SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT ORGANIZATION FOR RACIAL EQUITY



Board of
Selectmen

APR 07 21

Agenda Item
3

Directors of the Southeastern CT Organization for Racial Equity (SCORE)

Ben Ostrowski: Executive Director

Serena Valentin: Director of Operations

Nickie Padilla: Director of Programming

Esteban Garcia: Director of Finance

Anneliese Lapides: Director of Community Engagement

SCORE is a nonpartisan organization committed to anti-racist action with the ultimate goal of making people of color feel heard, safe, and welcome in southeastern CT. We have official 501(c)(3) status from the IRS.

Today's Presentation:

- I. Definitions
 - A. Racism
 - B. Social Determinants of Health
 - C. Public Health Crisis
 - 1. Statistics
- II. Actionable, Long-Term Solutions
- III. Support for the Resolution

Definition of Racism

“Racism is a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on phenotype (‘race’), that:

- unfairly disadvantages some individuals & communities,
- unfairly advantages other individuals & communities,
- and undermines realization of the full potential of the whole society through the waste of human resources” (Jones, 2003).

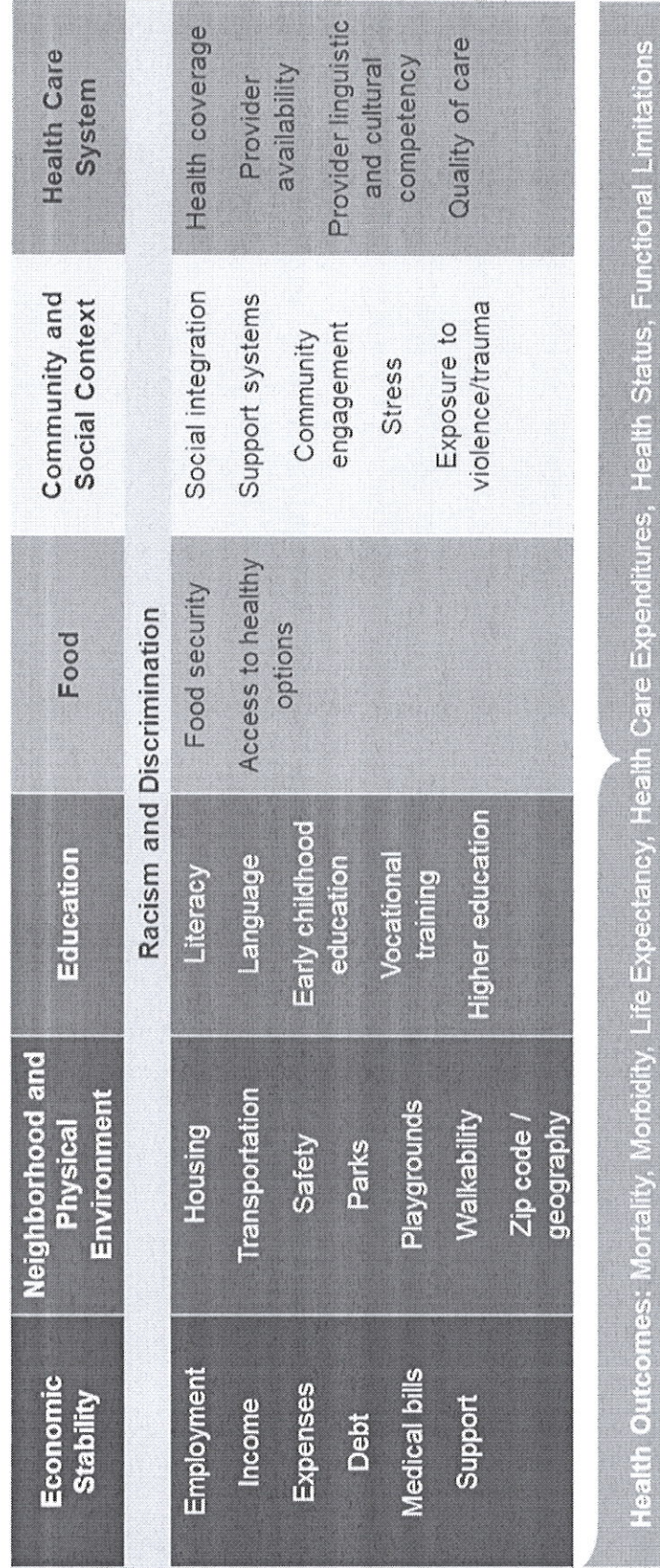
Levels of Racism

- (1) **Institutional**
 - Structures, policies, societal norms, and practices that result in differences in access to societal goods, services, and opportunities based on race
- (2) **Personally-Mediated**
 - Prejudice (the assumptions and judgements made) & discrimination (the actions taken based on those ideas)
- (3) **Internalized**
 - Acceptance by the marginalized group(s) of negative messages about abilities and worth

→ **Microaggressions:** verbal or behavioral actions that communicate stereotyping, hostility, or socialized beliefs of marginalized individuals/communities (may be subconscious/unintentional)

Figure 2

Social and Economic Factors Drive Health Outcomes



RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

In order to be declared a public health crisis, the following criteria must be met:

1. Affect large numbers of people
2. Threaten health over the long term
3. Require Adoption of large-scale solutions

1 RACISM IMPACTS THE LIVES OF 100+ MILLION BLACK/INDIGENOUS/PEOPLE OF COLOR (BIPOC) IN THE UNITED STATES

2 RACISM HAS NEGATIVELY IMPACTED THE LIVES OF BIPOC SINCE THE FOUNGING OF THE UNITED STATES

3 DISMANTLING RACISM REQUIRES WORK AT THE INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL, RANGING FROM HEALTHCARE, TO EDUCATION, TO HOUSING, AND ALL POLICIES THAT INTERCONNECT THESE INSTITUTIONS

Source: Connecticut Health Foundation

SCORECT.COM

SCORE
REDEFINING CONNECTICUT'S ORGANIZATION FOR HEALTH EQUITY

RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

Massive health disparities exist between races in Connecticut. A necessary step to addressing this inequity is the declaration of racism as a public health crisis.

23.6%

OF COVID DEATHS
ARE BLACK
INDIVIDUALS

4X

BLACK MOTHERS ARE
4X MORE LIKELY TO
DIE DURING
CHILDBIRTH THAN
WHITE MOTHERS

1/2

HISPANIC ADULTS ARE
HALF AS LIKELY TO BE
GIVEN PAIN MEDICINE
FOR A BROKEN BONE
AS WHITE ADULTS

#1

BLACK INDIVIDUALS
HAVE THE HIGHEST
CANCER MORTALITY
FOR ALL CANCERS
COMBINED

Source: Connecticut Health Foundation

SCORECT.COM

SCORE

CONNECTICUT FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

Despite high aggregate health outcomes, Connecticut is 42nd in health disparities, according to the United Health Foundation.

4X

BABIES BORN TO BLACK MOTHERS ARE MORE THAN 4X AS LIKELY TO DIE BEFORE THEIR FIRST BIRTHDAY AS BABIES BORN TO WHITE MOTHERS

4X

HISPANIC INDIVIDUALS ARE 4X MORE LIKELY TO BE UNINSURED THAN WHITE INDIVIDUALS IN CONNECTICUT

2X

HISPANIC ADULTS ARE TWICE AS LIKELY TO HAVE GONE WITHOUT SEEING A DOCTOR FOR MORE THAN 12 MONTHS AS WHITE ADULTS

2X

BLACK INDIVIDUALS ARE TWICE AS LIKELY TO DIE FROM DIABETES-RELATED COMPLICATIONS THAN WHITE INDIVIDUALS

Source: Connecticut Health Foundation

SCORECT.COM

SCORE

CONNECTICUT HEALTH FOUNDATION

Actionable, Long-Term Solutions

- Tangible outcome: every action taken (e.g., budgetary decisions, policies proposed) by the Board will include a report or subsection detailing
 - (1) how the action will influence BIPOC, and
 - (2) if the influence is negative, how the Board will ensure equitable outcomes
- Addressing disparities and inequities among BIPOC then helps to address other factors of structural inequity
- Contribute to the public health & equity of our town, region, and state

Support

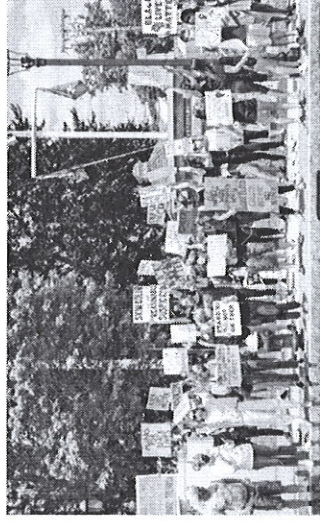
"People of color are more likely to experience conditions in housing, food access, healthcare, employment, transportation, education and other social determinants of health that put them at risk for preventable disease and premature mortality. The biological impacts of living with chronic stress resulting from racism exacerbate that risk."

-Stephen Mansfield, MPH, REHS; Director of Health, Ledge Light Health District
-Jennifer Muggeo, MPH; Deputy Director, Ledge Light Health District

"Elders in middle to high income nursing homes (mostly white) receive therapeutic intervention that effectively capitalizes on their strengths, compensates for their needs, and maximizes their quality of life in their final years. The vast majority of residents (mostly minorities) in low-income nursing homes do not receive the services and support that they deserve, that they have a right to, and that we would all want our parents and ourselves to receive in this stage of life." -Susan Ostrowski, MA, MS, CCC-SLP; Reading2Connect®, Co-Creator/Director

"I, as a Healthcare Provider, have been a witness to the indifference of doctors and nurses while "giving care" to minorities. During this pandemic, I have known of Latinos that have been discharged back home for the third time from an ED Department (positive for COVID-19), to be brought back in an ambulance the next day and dying in the ICU not long after that. In the meanwhile, others were admitted to the hospital, treated, and even given experimental medication and survived it." -Loreto Verde, Physician Assistant

Officially Declare Racism a Public Health Crisis in East Lyme

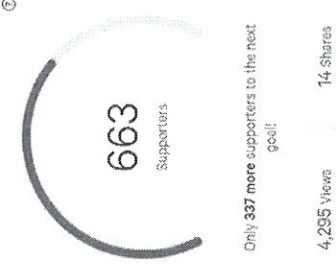


663 have signed. Let's get to 1,000!

First Name
Last Name
Email
Phone
Country
United States
Niantic
CT

Officially Declare Racism a Public Health Crisis in East Lyme

Misra View petition



Share your petition

Successful petition starters share their petition about 12 times. Try to share on as many different platforms as you can, and be sure to ask others to sign and share your petition to build momentum!

<http://chng.it/MXrBk4Sd>

Edit your link to make it easier to share

Facebook
Gmail
WhatsApp

Email

Tweet

The Resolution

TOWN OF EAST LYME: RESOLUTION DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

WHEREAS race is a social construct with no biological basis;

WHEREAS racism is a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks and causes persistent discrimination, both intentional and unintentional;

WHEREAS racism is a system of power that exists at both the individual level as interpersonal and/or internalized racism and at the system level as institutional and/or structural racism;

WHEREAS racism unfairly disadvantages specific individuals and communities while unfairly giving advantages to other individuals and communities;

WHEREAS racism saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources;

WHEREAS racism is a root cause of poverty, constricts economic and social mobility, creates barriers to resources, and has created a wealth divide;

WHEREAS racism results in segregation and inequities in many areas of life, including economic stability, housing, education, physical environment, food security, employment, healthcare, and criminal justice and policing resulting in a health divide with Black, Native American/American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic/Latinx residents being more likely to experience poor health outcomes and bearing a disproportionate burden of illness and mortality;

WHEREAS more than 100 studies have linked racism to worse health outcomes and the 2016 and 2019 Community Health Assessments of the Health Improvement Collaborative of Southeastern Connecticut, of which the Town of East Lyme is a member, identified numerous racial inequities in health outcomes and social determinants of health in the region, and the 2019 Community Health Improvement Plan includes addressing racism as a public health issue;

WHEREAS the collective prosperity and wellbeing of the Town of East Lyme depends upon equitable access to opportunity for every resident regardless of the color of their skin;

Now, therefore, be it *Resolved*, that the Board of Selectmen of East Lyme asserts that racism is a public health crisis affecting our town and all of Connecticut and is committed to:

(1) Working to progress as an equity and justice-oriented community by continuing to identify specific activities to ensure anti-racism principles across our leadership, staffing and contracting;

(2) Promoting equity through all policies and budgets approved by the Board of Selectmen;

(3) Addressing and dismantling racism with a focus on how it affects the delivery of Town services including human and social services, education, economic development and public safety;

(4) Improving the quality and analysis of the data our town collects and continuously monitoring both qualitative and quantitative data to identify inequities and evaluate and improve upon our efforts and initiatives;

(5) Continuing to advocate for relevant policies that improve health in communities of color, and supporting local, state, regional, and federal initiatives that advance efforts to dismantle systemic racism;

(6) Furthering work to solidify alliances and partnerships with other organizations that are confronting racism and encouraging other local, state, regional, and national entities to recognize racism as a public health crisis;

(7) Improving upon systems of communication and community engagement and involvement in leadership and policy making to actively and authentically center the voices of Black, Native American/Indigenous, Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic/Latinx residents in the design, monitoring and evaluation of policy and practice changes and initiatives, and

(8) Identifying clear goals and objectives, systems of oversight, and accountability to assure that the Town of East Lyme is actively and continuously advancing racial equity.

Questions?