

Alliance for Interracial Dignity
Community Meeting Notes
11-9-17

Creating a Welcoming Community where Everyone Feels a Sense of Belonging

Participants were asked to brainstorm ideas, then to put a sticker on the ideas they would prioritize. Numbers represent the number of “votes” (stickers).

Feeling Safe and Policing

- 16 Help white folk understand their privilege
- 12 Stop the school to prison pipeline
- 11 Train officers to de-escalate situations
- 8 Know officers: cycle reps, be part of Equity in Education Committee, cultural/sensitivity training
- 5 Pay attention to evidence that shows people are treated differently based on race.
- 4 Police get out of cars and onto sidewalks
- 1 Getting to know neighbors, welcome diversity

Being Valued

- 10 Decrease the achievement gap
 - 9 Ward representation
 - 9 Increase diversity in school board
 - 8 Don't deny discomfort (value the other person)
 - 7 People would be listening to each other
 - 4 Make eye contact with people
 - 3 Using a person's name in social and business situations
 - 2 Seeking our participation
 - 1 Seeking our opinions
- Recognize one's strength is another's weakness

Having Some Power and Influencing Policy

- 17 All areas of WG represented in city government (boards, groups, commissions)
- 14 Church members gathering with other church members
- 12 Use your privilege to benefit one with less or without and call out injustice
- 6 Organized boycott of racist business and publicize a list of racist occurrences
- 3 One person can make a difference
- 2 Feel like all could be interactive in government
- 2 Focus groups for community impact items

Making Mistakes and Not Risking Dignity

- 11 Restorative Justice in schools and for adults as well
- 11 Speaking up for what you think is right
- 10 North Webster citizen run for city council
- 6 Approach others unlike you even if you might be rejected
- 4 Support people who have made mistakes and learning all around

Knowing I Am Learning and Growing

- 13 Socializing with diverse groups
- 10 Racial integration in all our systems: schools, government, business
- 9 Truth in education – teach children the truth
- 7 Support organizations like the Alliance
- 5 Business owners' association talks about diversity
- 5 Diversity in religion welcome
- 4 Recognize hidden history
- 2 Activities in the library
- 2 I'm a little person but what I say can be HEARD

Creating Relationships with All Types of People

- 17 Diversity on school board and city council
- 15 Change realtors' sales policies with intentionality
- 15 Increase opportunity for different people to meet – more personal experiences
- 6 Freezing property taxes for elderly
- 5 More community events at Larson Park where all feel more comfortable
- 4 Ministers and choirs rotate among the churches