

**Borough of Carlisle
Truth & Reconciliation Commission
August 9, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

Members present: Emily Kelahan (co-chair), TaWanda Hunter-Stallworth (co-chair. via zoom), Raff Donelson, Tristan Milazzo, Andrew Razanauskas, and Kendall Isaac.

Absent: Dorene Wilbur

Also present: Councilor Jeff Stuby (via zoom), Stephanie Taylor, and Nicole Meals

Ms. Kelahan called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Minutes from the July 19 meeting were not available and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Topics that were discussed:

- ✓ Unity Day Event – Consensus was that it was a worthwhile event to attend, however; the overall structure of it did not leave much time to interact with others.
- ✓ Community Events – The question was raised as to how to address requests for speaking requests or topics that are proposed to the committee. Mr. Razanauskas and Ms. Milazzo referenced keeping the action plan forefront in answering questions posed by the public. Ms. Hunter-Stallworth expressed the concern that any requests be forwarded to the TRC email address (TRC@carlislepa.org) due to consequences of open record laws. The overall consensus was to always keep the action plan in the forefront of comments. If a formal interview is requested, the chair or co-chair should be the representative. Requests for speakers will be brought before the committee at the monthly meetings.
- ✓ Operationalizing Action Plan: Working Groups/cadence of meeting & reporting/preliminary budget

These three topics were discussed in relation to each other.

Ms. Hunter-Stallworth suggested the creation of a working group for the creation of a budget request to Carlisle Borough Council. A thoughtful discussion ensued in regards to items that should be included in the request. Particular concerns were raised as to if a social scientist is needed to provide data analysis or if that can be done by local non-profits and/or committee members. It was decided that Ms. Milazzo, Mr. Donelson, and Ms. Hunter-Stallworth will form a committee to research costs associated with, but not limited to: speakers, community events, community surveys, and social scientist fees. They will be meeting within the next week. A committee meeting will be held on August 30 to discuss.

In addition, a second working group has been established to propose additional working groups to be formed consisting of Ms. Kelahan, Mr. Isaac, and Mr. Razanauskas. They will be meeting prior to the next full committee meeting.

Ms. Hunter- Stallworth invited public comments.

Mr. Fred Baldwin (via zoom) stated that he is skeptical of the need for a social scientist to interpret data. He also recommended against asking for too much funding in the budget request due to public perception and urged the committee to have restraint in the amount they request.

The next Truth and Reconciliation meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 30, 2021 at 6:00 pm in Todd Hall at the Cumberland County Historical Society.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Meals

Nicole Meals