

**Borough of Carlisle
Truth & Reconciliation Commission
September 13, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

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

Also present: Deputy Mayor Shultz, Chief Taro Landis, Stephanie Taylor and Nicole Meals

Ms. Hunter-Stallworth called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Minutes from the August 30, 2021 meeting were approved. Motion by Mr. Donelson, seconded by Mr. Isaac

Topics that were discussed:

✓ Working Groups

TRC members self-selected which working group they would like to participate in. The composition of these groups are as follows:

1. Research Working Group
 - Raff Donelson
 - Emily Kelahan
 - Kendall Isaac
 - Tristan Milazzo
 - TaWanda Hunter-Stallworth (as needed)

2. Community Engagement
 - Dorene Wilbur
 - Andrew Razanauskas
 - TaWanda Hunter-Stallworth
 - Tristan Milazzo
 - Emily Kelahan (as needed)

Upon discussion of the TRC, it was agreed that community members will be brought into the groups on an as needed basis. Ms. Wilbur suggested that TRC members brainstorm and develop a list of topics and concerns for each working group to address prior to the first meetings of these groups.

✓ September 30, Day of Truth and Reconciliation

There was a follow up discussion to a proposal that was read from Victoria Opilo to proclaim September 30th Orange Shirt Day in the Borough of Carlisle in support of indigenous people at the August 30 TRC meeting. Orange Shirt Day, also known as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, is a Canadian holiday. It was created as an observance in 2013, and is designed to educate people and promote awareness in Canada about the Indian residential school system and the impact it has had on Indigenous communities for over a century. It is held annually on September 30 in Canadian communities, where people are encouraged to wear an orange shirt.

Mayor Scott provided a draft proclamation recognizing the significance of September 30 to the TRC for consideration.

Upon motion by Ms. Kelahan, seconded by Mr. Razanauskas the TRC voted to endorse the Mayor's proclamation.

✓ New Business

Mr. Isaac reported that he had recently accepted a new position in Massachusetts and will be resigning the TRC after the October meeting. Ms. Hunter-Stallworth thanked Mr. Isaac for his service to the TRC, especially all his expertise in drafting the by-laws. Discussion ensued as to how his position would be filled. Deputy Mayor Shultz advised that the Managers office retains a list of community members who have expressed an interest in serving on boards and will be working along with the co-chairs of the TRC to pick someone to fill Mr. Isaac's seat on the commission.

Ms. Hunter-Stallworth suggested creating an alternate position that would be able to step up to a full role on the commission when a vacancy occurs. After much discussion it was decided not to have an alternate. Due to representational qualities and expertise that each TRC member brings to the table, it would be best to fill each vacancy individually with the co-chairs assisting the Borough Managers office in selecting the best candidate for the vacated position.

Motion by Mr. Donelson and seconded by Ms. Wilbur to proceed with Borough Managers Office commencing the search for a replacement TRC member with the assistance of the co-chairs. The motion carried with all in favor.

Ms. Hunter- Stallworth invited public comments.

Mr. Jason Turner, 165 East High Street, thanked the TRC for listening and considering the request that Ms. Opilo made in recognizing September 30th as Orange Shirt Day.

Ms. Hunter-Stallworth invited announcements from TRC member.

Ms. Milazzo commented the following: September is International Underground Railroad Month and there are events going on around the community. Several community groups will be sponsoring a screening of the movie *Home from School* to be shown in November. This movie is approximately one hour in length and documents the Carlisle Indian School. Finally, the Lincoln Cemetery plaque ceremony will be scheduled in the near future and she will keep the TRC posted.

Mr. Donelson was contacted by a researcher from the University of Notre Dame in regards to the TRC in Carlisle. The researcher is comparing what different TRC's are doing throughout the United States. Mr. Donelson spoke briefly with the researcher, but advised them to check back in the future since the TRC is still new to Carlisle.

The next Truth and Reconciliation Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 11, 2021 at 6:00 pm in Borough Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Meals

Nicole Meals