

# MINUTES OF LINC MEETING – MAY 19, 2019

Emily Kaufman opened the meeting with introductions and the reading of our mission statement. We welcomed 3 new members in attendance.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**Racism Discussion Group:** Lynn Geisler reported. We discussed the concept of White Supremacy. Emily provided a paper entitled White Supremacy Culture (available on our website) that outlines characteristics of White Supremacy. We talked about defensiveness of being part of the majority group; ingrained racism as part of our upbringing; how we can reach out to others in an effort get out of our comfort zone; how society teaches us when we are young....the impact of our education system in sustaining white privilege and how those who are economically disenfranchised are able to stay in a power group.

**Events Committee:** Cindy Paterno reported on behalf of Peter Wayne.

**The Facets and Faces of Immigration....An Interactive Forum** will take place on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington, 109 Browns Road in Huntington from 3:00-5:30 PM. The Forum is co-sponsored by UUF. The Keynote speakers are Patrick Young and Irna Solis. A panel of representatives from organizations including CARECEN, Huntington Rapid Response Network, LI Jobs with Justice, NY Civil Liberties Union, Rural Migrant Ministries, LI Immigrant Students Advocates and Yam Community Resources will present. Several immigrants will share their own personal stories. An action sheet will be compiled for those interested in volunteering for presenting groups. Additional organizations will have information available at tables.

David Pinkowitz has created an event page for registration. Access is available on the LINC website and Facebook page. Registration is encouraged but doors are open to all. Refreshments will be served. Robin and Marcy circulated a sign-up sheet for volunteers. If you were not at the meeting and would like to donate something, please email Marcy at [marleerhodes@gmail.com](mailto:marleerhodes@gmail.com).

Raffle tickets will be given to all in attendance, but you must be present at the end of the Forum when the winner will be announced. Local restaurants and service organizations are providing gift cards. An artist will also have a table.

Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard in organizing this event, especially Peter Wayne and Helen Boxwell.

We are all encouraged to share information about the Forum and to invite people to the event.

A final Events Committee meeting will be at Panera Bread on Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> @7:00 PM.

**CCC** – Cindy Paterno reported. Cindy attended the Women’s Diversity Network Summit on May 4<sup>th</sup>. LINC was a sponsor of the event. There was an excellent turn-out for the summit. Cindy reported that it was very professionally organized. There were many speakers, 18 workshops in the morning and 17 in the afternoon. Workshop topics included immigration, mental health, self-esteem, LBGQT issues, raising a daughter, human trafficking, etc. There was something for everyone!

**Meetings with Jim Gaughran:** Lynn Geisler reported on the NYS Legislation’s handling of the Green Light Bill. State Senator Gaughran is not supporting the bill, stating that checking on driving records of immigrants will be too difficult. LINC does not agree with this stance and will be reaching out to Gaughran. The Green Light Bill proposes to allow anyone living in NYS to acquire a driver’s license and insurance after passing the NYS Driving Test. Those in support believe that it is a safety issue, making roads safer. Jobs with Justice has collected over 1000 signatures to encourage our State legislators to support the bill.

Jim Gaughran will have a Town Hall Meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM at Commack Public Library.

**Citizens for 5G Awareness:** Sue Fete reported. There was a nation-wide rally against 5G. The Cinema Arts Centre hosted an event airing the film Generation Zapped which presents information about the dangers of 5G. Sue donated a copy of the film to LINC for anyone to view, if interested. Refer to their website for additional information:

[www.citizensfor5gawareness.org](http://www.citizensfor5gawareness.org)

**Election Committee:** Rich Rhodes reported that we will continue meeting as we get closer to the November elections. There will be a committee meeting in August...TBD. The next effort will focus on inviting local candidates to the LINC Fundraiser Event planned for September.

David Pinkowitz attended a meeting on the **2020 Census Campaign**. There are currently 9 faith-based community organizations getting the word out about the importance of the census and participating by completing the census form. The group agreed that we would like to participate in the campaign going forward.

Emily Kaufman brought up the idea of creating a committee to follow elected legislators to determine if they are supporting issues related to our efforts, especially if LINC supported them in their election efforts. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

**SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS ARE THIS COMING TUESDAY, MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>. REMEMBER TO VOTE!**

**No General LINC meetings in June or July.**

**Next Meeting: September 8<sup>th</sup> ....then every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month starting in October.**

**Fundraiser Event: Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Have a Good Summer!!!**