

04/22/21



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

Antiracism Task Force meeting, 4.22.21

x	Chair – Mary Fellows, UHLS
	UHLS at Large Member – Natalie Hurteau
x	DA at large Member – Tim Wiles, GUIL
x	Medium library representative: Tracey Pause, VOOR
x	Large Library representative: Tor Loney, APL
x	Adult services representative – Liz Maynard, RCS
x	Children’s services representative - Amy McCarthy, GUIL
x	Teen services representative – Cathy Brenner, BETH
	At large member – Tracey McShane, BETH

Antiracism Task Force meeting minutes, 4/22/21

Meeting called to order by M. Fellows at 2:01 pm

Minutes: The 03/25/21 meeting minutes were distributed and reviewed before the meeting and are now available on the UHLS website.

Time-keeper: L. Maynard

Part I

- Opening Remarks and Updates
 - M. Fellows led the TF in opening remarks and the review of the agenda
 - M. Fellows shared with the TF that the first 401 Antiracism Learning Circle (ALC) had 13 participants and seemed successful. ATF members present at the ALC weighed in on a question of safe space.
 - M. Fellows shared that the possibility of Gretchen Sorin speaking at the UHLS Annual Celebration is still open.

Part II

- Breakout sessions
 - CE and Programming met

Part III. Sharing of information and progress reporting of subgroups

- M. Fellows reported funds have been identified which will allow hiring of an outside trainer for staff and some board training. She shared a draft breakdown of what such training might look like and be handled.
- M. Fellows reported for Programming that the book discussion and Gretchen Sorin program will be this fall, tentatively mid-to-late September, to allow libraries time to market.

Part IV. Other

- TF members discussed the question: “In what ways should our meetings change to better meet our goals?” Ideas:
 - Meet once a month for everyone, with subgroups meeting outside of ATF meeting
 - Format meeting differently: subgroup meetings for first hour, then whole group from 3:00-4:00.
 - Change “debrief” segment, which tends to be always positive, to a question such as, “Does anyone have a reflection on our meeting today?” Or “Are there any concerns or something that didn’t feel right?”
 - When will member terms end? When will our work be done? M. Fellows indicated that she thought there would be an evaluation at our year anniversary. C.

Brenner suggested that any changes in meeting format be implemented at the anniversary for the ATF.

- M. Fellows shared a recent learning experience related to antiracism work.

Part V. Learning Together

- Members continued the discussion on responding to and maintaining connections and solid working relationships with people who have unexpectedly demonstrated a racist worldview.

Part V. Talking points

- M. Fellows asked the TF to summarize the talking points from today's meeting
 - Successful first Antiracism Learning Circle 401 series held on 4/20
 - ALC subgroup working on ALC Programming Kit to share with libraries
 - Gretchen Sorin "Driving while Black" book discussion/program will be in the fall

Next Meeting: May 13 @ 2pm

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:03 pm

Respectfully submitted, M. Fellows