

Mistretta, Susan

From: Jo M <jmmfour@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 1:41 PM
To: City Council - All
Subject: Resolution R-2020.06.24 - 100. I hope you read this !

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Good afternoon Dover city council members. I hope this email finds each of you and your loved ones safe and well.

I am thrilled and proud to see that our city is drafting a resolution condemning racism and taking the important steps to listen, learn, re-evaluate and build a safe, equitable and welcoming community for all who reside here and choose to visit.

In reviewing the Resolution draft currently available online I was underwhelmed and a bit disappointed with the language used. I would hope to see Dover adopt a stronger position of active anti-racism. I have read resolutions from other small cities with a white majority demographic (e.g. Arlington, MA & Mill Valley, CA) who've made a clear and active statement. For example the initial proclamation should clearly state that Black Lives Matter in Dover NH in addition to the closing statement.

The structure of each statement and the vocabulary within them is very passive and far too ambiguous for a Resolution Condemning Racism. As an anti-racist ally it does not indicate to me that there is a plan of action. The seemingly self-congratulatory statements about the council and police department imply that things are "fine" here unlike other places rather than that there is room for improvement. Please tell the citizens of Dover what you are actually resolved to DO.

Finally I must ask: was a person or people of color with a background in public policy & anti-racism consulted in creating this? We as white allies must listen first, before healing and progress can begin.

Thank you to councilors Lipinski and Williams and their try-city colleagues for their letter published in Foster's.

Thank you to all of you for your service to our community.

I look forward to seeing the next iteration of this important Resolution.

Jo Maden
Ward 6