

# MANISTEE CITY COUNCIL

## WORK SESSION AGENDA

**Tuesday, February 11, 2020 - 7:00 p.m. - Council Chambers, City Hall**

**I. Call to Order.**

**II. Work Session Items.**

- a.) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON WORK SESSION RELATED ITEMS.
- b.) JOINT DISCUSSION WITH HOUSING COMMISSION ON RAD CONVERSION PLANS. – City of Manistee Housing Commission.
- c.) DISCUSSION ON CITY OF MANISTEE BLIGHT. – Ad Hoc Blight Committee.
- d.) DISCUSSION ON RACIAL JUSTICE, INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY. – Manistee County Racial Justice and Diversity Initiative.
- e.) OTHER.

**III. Adjourn.**

TNT:km

ATTACHMENTS:

Racial justice, inclusion and diversity proposed resolution.

TO: Manistee City Council  
FR: Concerned Citizens  
DT: January 20, 2020

RE: Proposed Resolution

We are a group of 25-30 Manistee County citizens called the “Manistee County Racial Justice and Diversity Initiative”. This group of concerned citizens came together in 2019. We are concerned about the current climate of hate and distrust in our communities and nation. We decided to come together to take action to affirm and preserve love, respect and dignity for all persons living within our community. We think the best way to do this is to affirm and ensure equal justice and total respect for all races, sexes, nationalities, religions and income levels of persons living within Manistee County. This is certainly not a new concept, as our US Declaration of Independence spells it out with the words: “All men are created equal,” and our constitution has been amended to reflect the fact that all PEOPLE are created equal!

We believe that all US citizens with the exception of Native Americans come from other places on this earth and have ancestors who immigrated to this country for freedom and opportunity. In order to maintain these freedoms and opportunities, it is necessary for **all** of us to live in harmony and to respect each other’s differences.

From time to time it seems to be necessary to remind people of these facts and to affirm them. Thus we ask you, as elected representatives of our community, to consider this proposed resolution. We look forward to discussing this proposal with you at the upcoming City Council work session on February 11, and we are hopeful that the resolution could be placed on a City Council agenda and voted upon at a subsequent Council meeting.

#### RESOLUTION FOR RACIAL JUSTICE, INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY:

Be it resolved that the City of Manistee pledges to stand against hate and discrimination and affirms that Manistee should be a welcoming City for all.

We are proud of Manistee’s diversity. We recognize that at every level of American society, people of all backgrounds contribute to our democracy, culture and economy. We shall advance the basic principles upon which the United States was founded, establishing the equality and dignity of all people regardless of their background.

We condemn any attacks on, harassment of, or intimidation of individuals that are based on race, ethnicity, immigration or refugee status, religion, sexual orientation or other social identities. We recognize that the City of Manistee exists within the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabe people. We affirm the contributions, culture and identity of our Native American community. From all segments of our city, Manistee shall be a place that respects all of our diverse community.