
Meeting Minutes

Anti-Black Racism Working Group

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 6:30 pm

Location In-person – Central Library, Maker Space Event Room

Attendees: Charmain Brown (Notetaker), Nicole Facey, Teronie Donaldson

Library Staff: Shobha Oza, Sabrina Yung, Jordan Baptiste

Absent: Bernadette Hood-Caesar, Romina Diaz-Matus, Samantha Adebiyi

1. Maker Space Tour and Introduction
 - ABRWG Members met Maker Space team member JB.
 - JB led ABRWG members on a tour of the newly reconfigured Maker Space area at the Central Library.
 - Areas toured included: 3D printers, button makers, sound booth, sewing machines, vinyl press and large format printer. Members were able to see the equipment in person and ask questions.
 - The tour was followed by a sample hands-on activity that can be independently completed in the Maker Space. JB led ABRWG members through how to personalize a water bottle using the vinyl press.
 - Sample activity kits were reserved for absent ABRWG members.
2. Land Acknowledgement and Ancestral Acknowledgement
 - Read by SY and TD.
3. Conflict of Interest Declaration
 - No conflicts declared.
4. Review Meeting Minutes
 - February meeting minutes were reviewed
 - No edits or changes were expressed
5. Revisiting the Public Call for New Members
 - SY and SO shared that there were no submitted Expressions of Interest (EOIs) in response to the public call for new ABRWG members.
 - Reflecting on the timing of the public call (late January through to late February), the group determined that the competing community activities for Black History Month, paired with the inclement weather disruptions, may have hindered interested candidates from completing the submitting their EOIs.

- ABRWG members and staff personally spoke to interested community members but unfortunately those conversations did not turn into EOIs. Response and feedback based on those conversations demonstrate interest and positive community support for this work.
 - Discussion took place as to new methods and focus on advertising the call for new members. It was determined that we would re-post the public call for another month. While quorum was not achieved at this meeting, the group in attendance was confident that full support to re-post would be achieved. SY would advise everyone via email and flag any concerns.
 - Ideas for how to improve community reach included members attending the Black Brilliance Library Event on March 18 to personally invite potential members, ABRWG members sharing on relevant social media platforms including Black Queens of Durham since the Library business page cannot post into community groups (due to the platform's restrictions for business page postings), and more printed copies of the flyer and forms at all library locations.
6. Debrief February In-library Observations and Feedback from ABRWG Member Experiences Insert notes
- Discussion deferred to the April meeting, as quorum was not achieved, and it was important that all members could be a part of this debrief.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 9, 6:30 pm (online)