HALFMOON TOWNSHIP CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION 2020-18

IN RESPONSE TO AND IN SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE DEMANDING RACIAL JUSTICE, EQUITY, AND ACTION A RESOLUTION OF THE HALFMOON BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS we are a nation in crisis – not just of a recent global pandemic, but of an over 400 year history of racist systems and institutions that originated in slavery and continue today in our institutions, our health care systems, economics and businesses, our schools, our prisons, and our communities.

WHEREAS national and international Black Lives Matter protests and demonstrations are demanding that elected officials take action to address the scourge of institutional racism and white supremacy that allowed the killing of George Floyd in police custody, Breonna Taylor in her own home, and Ahmaud Arbery while out on a run, among others.

WHEREAS the Board has previously affirmed our denouncement of white supremacy in all its forms, we recognize that "all its forms" requires us to look at ourselves: the systems we have inherited, sustained, or created; and engage in challenging and important conversations with our community.

WHEREAS we do recognize the deep pain and trauma that has been experienced by many in our community over the past years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we acknowledge the dignity of black lives, and without endorsing a political organization, assert that black lives matter.

BE IT RESOLVED that the work of equity, racial and social justice, and safety will never be fully resolved, we pledge to work tirelessly and with full commitment, recognizing our own shortcomings and biases and to seek input from those who can guide us. To meet this need we will support the creation of a citizen advisory group.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Halfmoon Township Board of Supervisors commits to setting a course towards making our community an even more inclusive and welcoming community. Input from the citizen advisory group will help to promote introspection and provide social analysis for the Halfmoon Township Board of Supervisors on issues related to diversity and inclusion. The advisory group will make recommendations for direct actions to promote inclusivity and a sense of community within the township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by way of this resolution, we commit ourselves to move us closer to being a safer, more equitable, and more just community. Therefore, once established, the citizen advisory group will collect survey data to identify any specific policies or practices that may lead to unequal outcomes for members of our community. In addition, they will create a report to inform the Halfmoon Township Board of Supervisors about community members' perceptions of safety, both physical and psychological, and will propose actions to improve the social climate of the community.

 $\boldsymbol{RESOLVED}$ and adopted this 9^{th} day of July, 2020.

ATTEST:

[SEAL)

Denise Gembusia

HALFMOON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Danelle Del Corso, Chair