DIVERSTY EQUITY &INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Dear 23rd Ld members,

I hope that everyone is doing well and staying safe and healthy. I want to start out by acknowledging the tragic loss of lives in Georgia by asking for a moment of silence. This act that happened ( along with the others) tells you just how important diversity, equity and inclusion needs to be addressed now more than ever. President Biden is doing his part by placing those members in cabinet positions and trying to pass key laws addressing diversity concerns and systemic racial issues. Our own state is addressing police reform and the Washington Supreme Court passed the Blake decision that changed the possession law that now has to be relooked at and addressed from an equitable lens.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion has a different meaning to each and everyone of us. How we view it from a young or old perspective, the life experience and the economic impact plays a huge part of how we come to view DEI. We view DEI through our individual lens in which we place that into our community lens. Thinking about this I talked to our 23rd LD Chair and asked if DEI Committee could give a DEI Training Class to the E – Board and Committee Chairs and then provide the training to the 23rd LD. I will be reaching out to the community minority groups to do an introduction and to look at their DEI programs. I would like to try and have this done with in the next 2 meetings.

I am still looking for a committee vice chair as well as members and thank you for your tine and consideration as well as your patience.

Sincerely,

Shannon Turner

Chair Diversity Equity Inclusion