

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Township of Woodbridge values that diversity on the Woodbridge Township Committees, Boards and Commissions is vital to the sustainability of Woodbridge; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Woodbridge believes that diverse membership on committees, boards and commissions encourages the exchange of different perspectives, facilitates innovative problem-solving, and supports social equity in communities; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Woodbridge strives for its local committees, boards and commissions to reflect the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Woodbridge convened a committee to perform a diversity analysis of its current boards and commissions; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Woodbridge accepts the report and recommendations submitted by the Woodbridge Diversity Committee, pursuant to the Diversity on Boards and Commissions Action within the Sustainable Jersey Certification Program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE hereby accept the report and recommendations submitted by the Woodbridge Diversity Committee, pursuant to the Diversity on Boards and Commissions Action within the Sustainable Jersey Certification Program.

ADOPTED: MAY 21 2019

I certify that the above is a true and exact copy of the Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Municipal Council of the Township of Woodbridge at their Regular Meeting held on MAY 21 2019.



JOHN M. MITCH, RMC, CMC, CMR
MUNICIPAL CLERK

Diversity on Boards and Commissions in Woodbridge Township

Report submitted by: Woodbridge Diversity Committee (WDC)
Submitted to: Woodbridge Mayor, Woodbridge Town Council and Sustainable Jersey
Date: April 2019

Findings:

Upon the review of the Woodbridge Township Boards, Committees and Commissions, it is the finding of WDC that the makeup of these local boards, committees and commissions does not parallel the diversity of the community as a whole.

Through discussions, the WDC feels the main barrier impeding the diversity in the membership of Woodbridge boards, committees and commissions is the lack of awareness of the numerous opportunities that exist in Woodbridge to contribute to the township through participation on the local boards and commissions.

WDC is making the following recommendations, to the Mayor and Township Council, to promote diversity within the membership of its boards, committees and commissions.

Recommended Strategies to Improve Diversity on Boards/Commissions:

- When applicable, add a student representative to board, committee, and commissions. This will encourage youth to get involved and allow them to feel like they have a voice in the township. It will also help to increase age diversity on the boards.
- The Mayor should mention board/commission vacancies in his monthly column/newsletter.
- During National Volunteer Month, the Township should make a strong emphasis on educating the public on each board, committee, and commissions and list any vacancies.
- Utilize technology more in educating the public on board, committee, and commission roles, meeting dates, and vacancies. Updating the website and Woodbridge Now app can help in this area. Also, advertise the boards and commissions and their missions on the local Woodbridge TV Channel 35 to raise awareness.
- Publicize vacancies and deadlines to apply for boards and commissions on website homepage, as well as meetings, more extensively. While the website does list all board, committee, and commissions, moving vacancies to the homepage would put a stronger emphasis on the importance of serving on these public boards.
- Utilize specific days in town such as Multi-Cultural Day and Hispanic Day to help educate residents about our boards/commissions. This can help increase our ethnic diversity of our board/commission members.
- Educate and encourage residents to join non-voting committees, in town, in order to learn the process of being on a board/commission and become more involved, increasing the opportunity of being appointed onto voting boards/commissions.

- Work with groups such as the Chamber of Commerce, Inter-Faith Council, and Independent Club of Colonia to identify individuals who may want to serve.
- Reinstitute a "welcome package" for new residents via a thumb drive of information. This "welcome package" should include all information about Woodbridge, including its boards and commissions.

Sustainable Jersey
Diversity on Boards & Commissions
Woodbridge Township
Target Board & Commissions for Review

Boards & Commissions	Cable Commission	Cultural Arts Commission	Housing Authority	Municipal Alliance Committee	Redevelopment Agency	Zoning Board of Adjustment	Planning Board
Total Members	6	14	7	22	7	9	11
Ethnicity							
Caucasian/White	6	12	3	18	7	8	7
African American/Black	0	0	1	2	0	0	1
Asian/Asian Indian	0	2	2	1	0	1	3
Hispanic/Latino	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Age							
Under 18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19-64	6	11	7	20	6	8	8
65 or Older	0	3	0	2	1	1	3
Gender							
Female	0	11	2	15	2	0	3
Male	6	3	5	7	5	9	8

Diversity on Boards & Commission in Woodbridge Township

Report Submitted by: Woodbridge Diversity Committee
Submitted to: Woodbridge Mayor, Woodbridge Town Council
& Sustainable Jersey

Woodbridge Township Diversity Profile:

- Woodbridge is located in the Middlesex County within the State of New Jersey
- It is the sixth largest town in New Jersey
- Woodbridge Township comprises 10 tight-knit communities
- The sections of town are: Avenel, Colonia, Fords, Hopelawn, Iselin, Keasbey, Menlo Park Terrace, Port Reading, Sewaren and Woodbridge proper
- As of July 1, 2017 the estimated population of Woodbridge township is 101,965
- The percent change from April 1, 2010 to estimate base on July 1, 2017 is 2.6% (2017 U.S Census Bureau)
- On April 1, 2010 population census were 99,585 (2017 U.S Census Data)
- The most common foreign languages in Woodbridge are Spanish (3,401speakers), Hindi (975 speakers), Hungarian (68 speakers)
- According to American Community Survey (ACS), "In 2016, the median age of all people in Woodbridge, NJ was 37. Native-born citizens, with a median age of 33.7, were generally younger than foreign-born citizens, with a median age of 39.9. But people in Woodbridge, NJ are getting older. In 2015, the average age of all Woodbridge, NJ residents was 36." (Census Bureau)
- There were 4,493 Asian and 4,306 Hispanic residents, the second and third most common ethnic groups (U.S Census Data)

- Woodbridge has a large population of military personnel who served in Vietnam, 2.03 times greater than any other conflict (U.S Census Bureau)

Demographic Charts

Age	Percent
Under 5	6.2%
Under 18	20.4%
19-64	59.6%
65 or Older	13.8%

(Based upon 2017 U.S Census Data)

Ethnicity	Percent
Caucasian/White	57%
African American/Black	11.5%
Asian	24.6%
Hispanic/Latino	18.9%
Other	2.6%

(Based upon 2017 U.S Census Data)