

Human Rights Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2019- Conference Room Town Hall 6:35 -8:13 PM

STONEHAM  
TOWN CLERK  
REGISTRARS

2020 JAN 24 A 8:42

1. Chairman Kevin Merritt called meeting to order at 6:35 PM

Members In attendance:

Kevin Merritt

Lindsay Beal

Pat Kilty

Sheila Ryder

Cailin Kennedy

Julie Beliveau

Jane Francis

and

Guest Speakers: Kathy Conary and Linda Leis of Stoneham Alliance Against Violence

2. Sheila Ryder approved as note taker as Donna Gaffey was not in attendance.
3. Minutes from October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed. Pat Kilty moved to accept and Lindsay Beal seconded. Accepted without any changes
4. Kevin Merritt introduced Kathy Conray and Linda Leis from Stoneham Alliance Against Violence, a local non-profit organization. Their mission is to raise awareness of teen dating violence and domestic violence and to promote programs that work to reduce violence and promote healthy relationships. They work with a very high risk population and provide emergency services for women and children for a surprisingly high number of families in Stoneham. They coordinate services with SPD, Stoneham Coalition and High School programs.  
HRC can support their services through PR and sharing of their fund raising events on social media. Their major event is March 26, 2020 at Prince Pizza and they can use help with Silent Auction/Raffle. They are also in need of language translators and pro-bono legal services so any referrals are greatly appreciated.
5. Discussion of revised HRC mission statement. This remains a work in process and we can revise as necessary in the coming months. Pat Kilty moved to accept as is and Lindsay Beal seconded motion. Passed with vote of 4-3. Kevin Merritt will review with TA and add to web page as approved.
6. Discussion of HRC critical incident response plan. Kevin Merritt presented a draft and we discussed our roles and responsibilities. What are the legal issues in our response and reporting? This was tabled for continued discussion at next meeting and then review with TA and Legal Counsel.
7. Discussion of HRC policy regarding televising meetings. There has been no formal request for this but town counsel was questioned about it at an SSB meeting. There was no definitive answer. As discussed, we noted we are an open meeting but can also deal with sensitive, private issues making

televising a questionable practice. We will wait for formal request and then define policy. Jane made motion to table the discussion and Cailin seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

8. Presentation of New Business

Lindsay reported on her conversation with Adam Rodgers, Exec Director of Boys & Girls Club. They discussed the issues of environmental justice and open spaces, the growing Latino population which is underserved and their plans for expanded services for teens.

December meeting set for December 19- 6:30 PM. Cailin Kennedy will contact Supt John Macero to speak. Will confirm with Kevin and he will contact Maureen Canova at Senior Center and/or Megan Kavanagh Day at Chamber as schedules allow.

At 8:13 PM, Pat Kilty motioned that we adjourn meeting. Lindsay Beal seconded the motion and we unanimously confirmed.