

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2020 – Remote Meeting – 6:30-7:45 pm

REMOTE PARTICIPATION MEETING

Conducted pursuant to the Executive Order dated March 12, 2020 suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, Gen.L.c.30A &20, et seq., and 940 CMR29.01, et seq.

In response to Governor Baker's declaration of a public health emergency and the related Emergency Executive Order dated March 12, 2020, the Human Rights Commission shall be meeting remotely until further notice. The audioconferencing application Go to Meeting will be used for this purpose. An online link and telephone access number will be provided on all meeting agendas and also on the Human Rights Commission website. This application will permit the public to access and participate in future Human Rights Commission meetings. Instructions for joining meetings in this manner will be provided on the Human Rights Commission website. . We extend our thanks for your understanding in this manner, which is intended to keep members of the Commission safe.

Chairman Kevin Merritt called meeting to order, stating the declarations above and asking all members to identify themselves and their home address.

Online for the meeting were:

Kevin Merritt

Rob Bardell

Cailin Kennedy

Lindsay Beal

Pat Kilty

Sheila Ryder

Donna Gaffey

Jane Francis

Select Person Raymie Parker

Resident Deborah Delman

After roll call a motion was passed with all members in agreement the meeting began at 6:36 pm.

First order of business was to approve the meeting minutes for May 28, Pat Kilty made motion to approve, Jane Francis seconded. Roll call vote was held and May 28th minutes approved. Next the minutes from June 4th were brought up for vote after being amended. Rob Bardell made the motion to approve, Pat Kilty seconded. Roll call vote was held and amended June 4th minutes approved.

The subject of the HRC Resource List was revisited along with our mission statement and the possibility of adding to those items the neighborhood action plan. Ideas thrown out for distribution were: Senior Center- newsletter, Flyer inside the books the library is passing out at curbside pickup, Chamber puts together bags for Stoneham 101. During discussion the budget was brought up and with no budget how we could accomplish publishing as well as distribution. Rob Bardell brought up we should utilize the folks listed on the resource list, First Church Food Pantry, Senior Center, School Department,

Connect with them for distribution, get hard copies as well as place on the Town's website. Jane Francis stated "cross pollination works", Cailin expressed agreement with Rob's method. Further suggestion was made to pass out at Town Meeting.

Actions taken because of this discussion, proofreading and verification of all listed resources, formatting to achieve a one page flyer, permission obtained while in meeting to place flyers within the materials for Town Meeting.

Chair Kevin Merritt asked Lindsay Beal and Sheila Ryder to explain the neighborhood action plan they have been collaborating on.

Sheila discussed her idea for modified block party, but not feasible as to the phase of the pandemic we are in. Pat Kilty echoed not to lose sight of block party for another time.

Kevin M. talked about knocking on doors and getting to know neighbors, the diversity of our neighborhood. Rob B. remarked it helps to defuse tension in the community, get to know neighbors situation. Know if that knock on the wall means they need help.

Sheila also brought up zoom book clubs, the possibility of coordinating with library.

Greater Boston Stage Company was mentioned, possibility of repurposing for films

Final business, Deborah Delman mentioned a Vigil organized by First Baptist Church, had been scheduled for June 28th for 2:00pm on the common.

Motion was made to adjourn by Rob Bardell, second by Cailin Kennedy, roll call vote was held and meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm