

Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2021 – Remote Meeting – 6:30-7:30 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
Pat Kilty
Donna Gaffey
Erin Bradley, MD
Emma Kilbride
Jane Francis
Rob Bardell
Lindsay Beal
Sheila Ryder

Motion to start the meeting was made by, Pat Kilty. Second by Donna Gaffey.
After roll call vote meeting began at 7:00 pm. Due to technical difficulties

First order of business was approval of meeting minutes for February 25th, 2021 motion to approve Pat Kilty, Kevin Merritt second. Roll call vote was held and minutes approved.

Subcommittee reports:

- Community Outreach (Jane & Pat) update on flyer; produced, and distributed. Posted several places.
- Event Planning (Lindsay & Donna) conversed informally regarding Gay Pride (Ice Cream Social/Farmers Market Style). Discussion also started if we should be planning Juneteenth event. Agreed neither cause should be shorted. Will be reaching out to collaborate with Heidi Bilbo and Raymie Parker and any other groups interested in planning or participating in the Gay Pride Event. Discussion of Juneteenth, possible collaboration with another town, The date has been booked on the common, Saturday, June 19th. June will be a good month to get out and have get together. Discussed flag Bring people together and elevate voices. Perfect time to pass out informational HRC material. Keeping Juneteenth more educational and a meaningful event.
- Discussion of the Vigil held on the Common against Asian and Asian American violence and HRC releasing a statement.
- Reminder for startup of Stoneham Reads. Both Lindsay and Sheila attended Facilitator Training and found it very interesting, since the world has changed, the discussion will be held online with

various representation from schools and organizations taking their turn to facilitate discussion regarding the Stoneham Reads book selection "***STAMPED: Racism, Antiracism, and You***"

Kevin Merritt discussed HRC taking a vote on a letter that had been circulating supporting the Stoneham Boys and Girls Club.

Discussed information received from Senator Lewis office regarding budgeted funds available. Possibility of pulling together a request prior April 1st deadline.

Discussed the recent Hershaw Street Fire and what possible resources we (HRC) might be able to tap into in such a circumstance (caused based) was to arise in the future

Next meeting was scheduled for April 22nd.

Rob makes motion to adjourn meeting, the motion is seconded by Erin. A roll call vote was held and meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm