

Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes

July 15, 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.

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

Online for the meeting were:

Pat Kilty
Donna Gaffey
Erin Bradley, MD
Rob Bardell
Emma Kilbride
Sheila Ryder
Jane Francis
Lindsay Beal

Motion to start the meeting was made by, Pat Kilty. Second by Jane Francis.

After roll call vote meeting began at 6:30 pm.

First order of business was approval of meeting minutes for June 24, 2021 motion to approve with amendments made by Pat Kilty, Jane Francis seconds. Roll call vote was held and minutes approved.

Subcommittee reports:

- Community Outreach update (Jane & Pat) Pat reported back to commission members on Senator Lewis roundtable that was held at the Senior Center. She stated that is was attended by groups from Stoneham, including the Students and advisor for SOAR, Malden and Melrose. Most had been members of HRC's but didn't like the constraints. There were a large number of students, forming as they want their freedom. Pat suggested that HRC members read the report that Senator Lewis office had published on the meeting and distributed to us. Discussion following Pats update spoke to possibility of inviting SOAR and their advisor Ellie Kaufman to meet with us.

Next the subject of current events came up following recent incidents of Antisemitism and Racism taking place in Winthrop and Brookline. Spoke of being timelier with comment or response, options for getting this communication out. Sometimes we need to focus on the negativity that is taking place around us. Addressing the aspect of communication, it was discussed that we should also address the positive- see something, say something. Rob mentioned "make ourselves relevant". Utilizing social media was addressed such as Facebook and Twitter, possibility of forming a subcommittee to address this

- Event Planning update (Lindsay & Donna) – Lindsay brought about discussion of a Fall Event outside of being present at Farmers Market and Town Day. Possibly early November having a summit of roundtable. Sheila mentioned the term “Serving Stoneham” how we best do it together, more collaboratively. Lindsay and Donna will discuss as subcommittee further what this may look like.
- Education subcommittee update (Sheila, Rob and Erin) Sheila contacted the Hollaback in regards to their free resources for Bystander Training and received that response that they are overwhelmed with demand and it will take several weeks to get back to her. Sheila mentioned that she may reach out to the Boys and Girls Club for collaboration and possible funding and is researching grants. Lindsay volunteered her services as she is a grant writer by profession. Town would benefit from Bystander Training if we could collaborate with other groups. Lexington HRC do trainings for their town.
- Discussed Town Day and materials needed, resource listing updated and formatted. Research how long turnaround time would be for banner for table at Town Day. Move forward with flyer for Logo contest and push out on social media and/or school. Hold a special meeting for decision.
- Next meeting scheduled for August 19th at 6:30, continue with remote at this time.
- Motion to adjourn made by Erin, second by Donna, roll call vote held and meeting was adjourned.