

Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes

December 9, 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
Rob Bardell
Erin Tracy Bradley
Jane Francis
Lindsay Beal
Eduardo Juarez-Martinez

Motion to start the meeting was made by Jane, seconded by Rob. After roll-call vote, the meeting began at 6:30 pm.

HRC welcomed one of its new student members, Eduardo.

First order of business was approval of meeting minutes for August and September 2021. Due to lack of quorum of members present at those meetings, discussion was tabled.

Subcommittee reports:

- Community Outreach update (Jane & Pat): Jane had no update post Town Day.
- Event Planning update (Lindsay & Donna): Lindsay reported on November 16 event. We coordinated with Ben Jacques and had good turnout. Several HRC members attended. The focus was networking. There are plans to look into future meetings. Because attendance was good, we held back some of the planned discussion material for use at a later meeting.
- Education subcommittee update (Sheila, Rob and Erin): Rob continues to look into Boy Scouts of America bystander/upstander training, which has been impressive. Rob's hope is that they might be able to share their training somehow, or collaborate. Erin believes Sheila has been looking into a training group in New York. Erin mentioned that MGH is doing a new training, which involves presenting "difficult situations" to think and talk about. Kevin suggested that HRC could do something similar, perhaps closing each meeting with a challenging scenario.

- Communication update (Kevin): No update.

Next order of business was discussion of the HRC logo contest. Discussion was tabled until we have more HRC members in attendance.

Next meeting to be scheduled January 6 or 13, 2022.

Rob moved to close the meeting. Lindsay second. After rolle-call vote, the meeting was adjourned.