

## **Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes April 24, 2019**

**Attendance:** Margaret Adams, Steve Heaslip, Chris Kelly, Diane Loud, Robert Delaney, Joe Borsellino, Amy Hicks, Lianna Manos, Margaret Matthews, Officer Michael Buckley

The meeting was convened at 7:05 PM.

Jessica Porter, Planning Board member, addressed the Human Rights Commission during public comment. Her intent was to inform the HRC of specific committee openings and ask the commission's support in the recruitment of applicants to these commissions.

The Planning Board will have a committee that will work on the development of a Master Plan for the town, including planning on the topics of land use, housing, open recreation, facilities, public health, livability, transportation, real estate, and implementation. The Master Plan is developed every 10 years and is required by town bylaws and state law. Ms. Porter asked the HRC to consider how it might also provide input into the development of the Master Plan. Ms. Porter also asked that the HRC support in helping the Master Plan Committee be more representative of the town's committee.

Dedham Square Planning Committee has been established and will consider the economic development of the square including the reuse of the current police station. The committee will consist of members of each of the precinct of the town.

The Select Board will also have a committee to review the charter for the town. Ms. Porter suggested that the HRC consider becoming involved as a way to ensure committee structures might be more representative of the town.

The Human Rights Commission voted to share the postings on their Facebook and Twitter pages. The HRC will also take the opportunity to individually invite other community members.

A motion was made to accept March 27th minutes and approved minutes.

The HRC discussed that May is mental health awareness month. The HRC discussed how to support the further distribution of the William James referral services and other services identified by Dedham Police. Diane Loud will write a letter to the local newspaper in regards to the May being mental health awareness. Perhaps, the HRC might consider a small monthly column for local newspaper. The HRC approved a motion to try to have a monthly column in local newspaper.

Chris Kelly will try to see if he can create a Next Door page for the HRC as another avenue for information to go out to the community.

The HRC will also create a smaller subcommittee to review the Community Guide to finish up the document before next meeting and organize.

The HRC moved to submit to Nancy Baker, Assistant Town Manager, the draft guidelines for the art logo to get approval for distribution through various local media. The intent would be to get it out as quickly as possible before the end of the school year so local students might also participate.

The commission discussed the "Hate Has No Home Here" signs and materials. Discussion was held if the HRC might seek out a grant to purchase some of these to give out at local events. Joe Borsellino will check with Nancy Baker about the ability of the HRC to seek out grants. Rob Blaney will check who is in charge of the Dedham Savings Bank Foundation.

The HRC also continued discussion of which local events it might have a presence at. Dedham Day would be one of the local events we might have a presence of.

Kristina King, MPH is the new Program Director for the Drug Free Communities Program. There are monthly meetings of the Drug and Alcohol Coalition. Perhaps, the HRC can have Kristina King attend one of the future upcoming meetings. On May 7th, the Drug and Alcohol Coalition will also meet from 6-7 PM. Kristina invited any interested HRC members who might be interested to participate in those meetings.

Rob Blaney shared the following upcoming event. On May 7th, the Dedham Youth Commission from 5-7 PM will be holding a barbecue at the Endicott House. And, he Latino on Thursday, May 16th at 6 PM, the Dedham Youth Commission will host a Latino Dance night for high school students at the Fred Astaire Dance Studio.

The Human Rights Commission adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Margaret Adams, Clerk Human Rights Commission