Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes: September 25, 2019

Attendance: Joe Borsellino, Diane Loude, Margaret Matthews, Amy Wax Lafont, Chris Kelly

Census 2020 Discussion with Select Board

Margaret Adams spoke on behalf of HRC at the Select Board meeting in regards to the Census 2020 at a meeting this month. Board was supportive of efforts to educate the public about the Census. We were asked to communicate and coordinate with Paul Muchbach, town clerk, our efforts in disseminating information about the census.

Diane Loude created a one pager about the Census. She will forward to HRC tonight and then to Paul Muchbach for his information. We will give these out at Dedham Day. Additional copies can also begin to be distributed in various public spaces in town.

Logo Contest

Logo Contest has begun to be shared widely. Dedham Times posted the Dedham HRC Logo contest once. Diane Loude will forward the Logo contest information to the schools. Margaret Adams will forward the information to be posted on the website.

Resource Guide

Resource guide is complete. Margaret Matthews will see if she can delete the header on each page. Joe Borsellino will print some copies for Dedham Day. Margaret Adams will see if the information can be posted on the website.

Information about HRC

Chris Kelly designed a flyer also with information about the HRC to distribute at Dedham Day. He shared a couple of alternatives. He will make copies to share at Dedham Day.

Dedham Day

Margaret Adams will bring candy, markers, and paper for student entries for logos. She will outreach to Girl Scouts to see if they want to volunteer to lead the logo contest table for children to make logos. Margaret Matthews will bring water. Joe Borsellino will bring cooler with ice, two tables, copies of resource guide, and tent. Chris Kelly will be print HRC flyer. Diane Loud will make copies of the Census flyer.

Library and HRC Collaboration

Margaret Adams met with Monika Wilkinson, Mary Ellen Stokes-a Dedham librarian, and Janet Reynolds from DLit. We began planning a One Book, One Community Event. The topic of mental health was discussed as the potential focus. The group would work to establish a book possibly a memoir but also alternative ways that residents could participate. For example, you might read a book, listen to podcast, read short articles, or watch a documentary. On October 23rd, Margaret Adams will meet again with the small group and continue planning. Topic and materials would be announced in January followed by some events in the month of March.

I Am Dedham

Chris Kelly discussed withDonna Greer at Dedham TV a show or program that would highlight different members of the community. The best option is to have a show once a month at the studio where different Dedham citizens were highlighted. HRC members would serve as hosts. HRC members are asked to help identify potential individuals that could be on the show. Joe Borsellino, Diane Laude, and Margaret Adams will host the first show.

Dedham Times

HRC will write a letter to the editor to explain that a recent letter to the editor written by one outgoing member that represented an opinion gun rights was not that of the HRC.

Margaret Adams will submit letter to the editor on behalf of the Human Rights Commission on Latinos.

Amy Wax LaFont will draft a statement for HRC members to sign off indicating that any opinions expressed in public on topics can not be on behalf of the HRC unless discussed in open meeting and voted upon by HRC.

Translation of Town Website

Margaret Adams reach out to Nancy Baker to see if it is possible. Nancy asked the website vendor for a quote. We are waiting to hear back.

Martin Luther King Day

Joe Borsellino will reach out to confirm the date with Mike Welch and confirm that the schools still want to collaborate on Dr. King community event. Next meeting will have to specifically focus on developing and organizing the event.

Dedham Historical Society

The Dedham Historical Society asked for feedback from HRC on an upcoming exhibit of letters from three veterans of the Civil War, and its use of racial derogatory language. Joe Borsellino will contact Dedham Historical Society and ask if there is an opportunity to discuss the exhibit and possible opportunity to broaden the conversation on the topic of race.

Next Meeting: October 30th 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Margaret Adams, Clerk