

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes January 15, 2020

Attendance: Margaret Adams, Chris Kelly, Diane Loud, Joe Borsellino, Margaret Matthews, Officer Michael Buckley, Amy Wax Lafont, Aiden Healey, Rob Blaney, Philjay Somera Solar

The meeting was convened at 7:05 PM.

Minutes were approved for the December 2019 meeting.

Krissy King from the Coalition of Substance Abuse addressed the Human Rights Commission in regards to training, sponsored by Human in Common, specifically Interrupting Racism. The purpose of the training is to increase participants' awareness of the roots and racism in US History and its present-day manifestations in the workplace, schools and community. The Commission discussed potentially offering to town department heads, employees, and also elected board members. The Commission approved a unanimous motion to approve the efforts to bring the workshop to Dedham.

Dr. King Celebration

The Commission reviewed the following details for the Dr. King event on Monday, January 20:

- We have about 11 organizations for the Volunteer fair continues to have further registrations. Jan Civian from Livable Dedham was present to update HRC.
- Student volunteers are confirmed. They are bringing name tags and sign in sheets.
- Amy Hicks has notes from last year to help the custodians know how to set up spaces.
- Deserts will be in the hallway to support attendance at the volunteer fair.
- Sharna Borsellino is organizing the volunteers for serving the food.
- Mike Buckley will arrange for the pick up of the food on Monday.

The following food donations for the event was discussion:

- Il Massimo Italian Restaurant will have pasta bolognese for 100.
- Halfway Cafe will provide 50lbs of boneless chicken.
- Ocean State Job Lot will get plates, utensils, and napkins.
- For Star Market Dedham, we'll shop for fruit and vegetable platters.
- Cafe Fresh Bagel will provide one large bag of bagels.
- Salem Market will feed 120 pasta in red sauce and pasta with broccoli and chicken.
- MIT Endicott House will provide two trays of cookies.
- Starbucks will provide coffee urn.
- Ripples of Hopes will provide 20 pizzas and 500 bottles of water.

- Kings Legacy Place confirmed pulled pork sandwiches for approximately 100.
- As for Wegmans Westwood, we'll order deserts.
- Midway Cafe confirmed meatballs.
- Blue Ribbon Barbecue will provide pulled pork sandwiches.
- Dedham Community Theater will provide one bag of popcorn.

New Member

Aiden Healey, the new student member, addressed the commission introducing his own efforts and his interest in human rights.

One Book Dedham

Joe Borsellino and Margaret Adams attended another planning meeting with the Dedham Public Library for the One Book Dedham. A list of tentative events has been developed. The following are events we would like to encourage the most attendance:

- Wednesday, February 12th-Me2/Orchestra Flute Choir
- Thursday, March 5th-Mental Health Panel Discussion
- Thursday, March 12th at 6:30 PM-Sleep and Stress Workshop
- Saturday, March 28th-Family Dinner

Justice Documentary Series

The Human Rights Commission voted to support the Justice Documentary Series that will be held on Sundays in February at 2:00 PM. The commission discussed ways to share the information among community members to foster attendance. Joe Borsellino will check on the dates and confirm with the group the dates. Chris Kelly will share the information on social media.

Dedham TV, I am Dedham

The group discussed other potential Dedham residents to interview. The taping date has been changed to Tuesday February 4th. Rob Blaney will see if there are any high school students for the March taping. Aiden Healey will contact a high school student who would make a great guest.

Dedham Time Articles

Officer Buckley wrote an article for the Dedham Times on human trafficking that he will share with the group. Diane Loude will be write February's article to highlight the town's referral service through William James. Philjay Somera Solar will write an article in March on the topic of US Census. Margaret Matthews will be able in late spring to write an article on affordable housing.

The Human Rights Commission adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Next meeting will be on February 26th at 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Margaret Adams, Clerk Human Rights Commission