

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes May 19, 2021

Attendance: Diane Loud, Michael Buckley, Margaret Adams, Margaret Matthews, Philjay Solar, Amy Wax, Michael Buckley, Joe Borsellino, Diane Barry Preston, Chris Kelly, Lianna Manos

Also Present: Amanda Smith

The meeting was convened at 6:05 PM.

April Meeting Minutes Approved

The April meeting minutes were approved. The motion was made and then seconded to approve the minutes from April. The motion was approved by all participants via roll call.

Joint Meeting of State Human Rights Commission

Ms. Matthews shared her experience in the joint annual meetings of the Human Rights Commission last meeting. There were towns from across the state sharing their experience and resources. Elected officials present including state legislators were supportive of the Human Rights Commission. Joe Borsellino will share contact information for future meetings.

South Shore Coalition

Various towns and cities in the South Shore including Barnstable, Bourne, Scituate, Duxbury, Falmouth are interested in forming their own Human Rights Commission. Joe Borsellino will share out the contact information of the various interested towns. Commissioners who wish to connect or serve as a liaison for a town can do so.

Pride Month and Flag Raising

Select Board voted to support the flag-raising on Tuesday, June 1st 7 PM. A dozen stores have donated prizes to be handed out. Representative Paul McMurtry will speak at the event. LGBTQ community members will speak for a few minutes. Nancy Baker and Parks and Recreation will meet with Chris Kelly and Diane Loud to walk the space and what is needed. Chris Kelly shared a press release to share with the community. A visual graphic is being created and will be ready shortly.

Juneteenth Celebration

Juneteenth Celebration will be joined in conjunction with Norwood, Dedham, Mansfield, and Dedham. Joe Borsellino will share flyers with the schools. After the June 1st event, the Commission will work to decimate the information around the town.

Sacco-Vinzetti Trial

Speakers have been selected for the event. Several local organizations have also joined in support of the event. The event will be held on June 17th at 7-9 PM virtually. The event will be recorded. After the speakers are confirmed, Joe Borsellino will create a flyer to share.

I Am Dedham

Diane Preston Barry's last episode focused on older adults and is currently airing. Margaret Matthews will reach out to Sarah MacDonald and Jessica Porter to see if they would appear to speak about the inclusion of equity on the Master Plan Committee. Joe Borsellino will reach out to the Anti-Racism Coalition to see if they would present.

Townwide Debrief Race Discussion

The most interesting component was the breakout rooms. The groups were too large and not everyone could contribute. There was not sufficient time for elected and town officials to really listen to the concerns of those who were present. The presentations were centered around the town officials versus the members of the community who were present. The goals of the event were not clear.

Suitcase Stories

The event is to be held virtually on Monday, May 24th.

Meeting Dates

Meetings going forward will be held on the third Wednesday of the month.

The Human Rights Commission adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Future meeting dates are held on the third Wednesday of the month.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Margaret Adams, Clerk Human Rights Commission