

## **Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes June 23, 2021**

**Attendance:** Diane Loud, Michael Buckley, Margaret Adams, Margaret Matthews, Amy Wax, Michael Buckley, Joe Borsellino, Chris Kelly

The meeting was convened at 6:05 PM.

### **May Meeting Minutes Approved**

The May meeting minutes were approved. The motion was made and then seconded to approve the minutes from May. The motion was approved by all members unanimously.

### **Appointments of New Members**

At the next Select Board meeting, there will be a vote on the 4 at-large positions.

### **Suitcase Stories**

Amy Wax presented at the event held in collaboration with the Dedham Junior Women's Club. The event presented three stories that involved personal stories relating to immigration and refugee communities and their experiences. Chris Kelly will post the recording of the Suitcase Stories.

### **Juneteenth**

The HRC supported a table display in the early nineteenth century of Juneteenth celebrations and also Dedham Black history. There were many Dedham families who attended. There were many community groups that danced and performed. This was a collaboration of the towns of Dedham, Norwood, Mansfield, and Walpole. There may be interest in the Anti-Racism Coalition and other organizers to hold the event in Dedham next year. Joe Borsellino will outreach to the Anti-Racism Coalition to indicate that Dedham is interested. Dedham Times will be running an article on the event.

### **Hate Has No Place in Dedham**

Joe Borsellino, chair, shared a sign from the town manager that will be displayed at the town hall. The sign reads, "Hate has no place in Dedham. All are welcome here."

### **Pride Celebration**

The Pride Celebration was a great success. Lots of great feedback from members of the town. There were many personal stories shared. We should continue to make this an annual tradition. It was great to see so many public officials. Some of the feedback was that some speakers went too long. Some feedback was a request to make it more fun such as food trucks and a fashion show.

**Sacco-Vinzetti Trial**

There were 147 participants in the event. There were some technical problems. However, we did not lose many participants due to those challenges. The details of the case are complex.

**National Night Out**

Tuesday, August 3rd is national night out. Many events will be held that week in different neighborhoods. Is there a way for the Dedham HRC to support those events?

**I Am Dedham**

The June I Am Dedham episode is airing currently. The episode is focused on voices from LGBTQ+ community. Sarah MacDonald and Jessica Poter will be presenting in the equity in the Master Plan Committee. The taping will be on July 13th.

**Meeting Dates**

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

The Human Rights Commission adjourned at 7:47 PM.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dr. Margaret Adams, Clerk Human Rights Commission