

Wakefield Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes 8/16/22

Call to order 7:06 pm

Present members of HRC:

Eileen Rooney

Lindsay Averbrook

Daniela Brennan

Jeremy Little

Benny Wheat

Nicole Jacob

Sherri Oken

Also present:

Ofc. Amy Rando

Public Participation skipped. No members of community present.

July meeting skipped while waiting for updated guidance on Open Meeting standards.

Meetings can remain hybrid. Virtual and In-person.

Approval of minutes

Approval of minutes from June, general meeting.

Corrections needed: Nicole Jacob was not present

Proof for spelling errors needed.

Motion to approve minutes with indicated corrections. Unanimously approved.

Community updates:

Benny Wheat submitted article to Daily Item about our recent Juneteenth event.

Eileen Rooney submitted article to Daily Item about our recent Pride Events.

Financial updates:

Eileen and Daniela met with Town Administer Stephen Maio regarding our finances.

HRC is directed to spend from our account first.

If additional money is needed, we are asked to meet/email/speak with Town Administrator. Please send all invoices to Sheri Dalton.

Sheri O. suggested we continue to keep itemized details of our spending.

Daniela will request recent itemization from S. Dalton regarding ASL payments and prices.

-Lindsay suggested that we all send requests and quotes and proposals before a formal request for money to outside vendors/performers/ etc.

Moving forward all purchases/itemization should go through Daniela.

The Town of Wakefield will continue to support the HRC in the community. The HRC, going forward, does not need to spend meeting time discussing finances since we have the financial support, where we may lack, of the Town.

Ideas on how to rebuild our revolving account?

As a town body it is illegal for us to ask/solicit businesses for money.

We can apply for grants. Sherri O. is looking at the Cummings Grant which could be \$10,000. The grant is over 3 years.

HRC applies for the Mass Cultural Council grant which is around \$500.00 per year.

Upcoming Visibility/Volunteer opportunities:

Farmers Market:

8/20: Eileen; Nicole ; Sherri

10/1: Eileen; Daniela; Benny

We have a list of community members who would be perfect for volunteer events. HRC will start accessing the list for future events.

Matters Not Anticipated:

Hispanic Heritage Event/Month – Sheri and Teresa have communicated via email but have not scheduled a sub-committee meeting. They will look at dates and meet before next HRC meeting.

Benny, Eileen, and Jeremy are forming sub-committee for Indigenous people day/week/ and or month.

Sheri suggested asking Tribal member to do a story hour. Possible partnership with the library.

Daniela will begin posting to social media re: Hispanic Heritage month and Indigenous people events.

Commissioner Donna Murphy will need to step down due to health issues.

Commissioner Nicole Jacob considering resigning due to upcoming out of state move. Will consider staying until end of term in April.

Amy Rando asked about Active Bystander training. Sheri O. stated that they are still no live events. Quabbin has done one community event but need to make adjustments in that format. Currently they continue to only hold trainings on the virtual format. (See attachment added here: **Virtual TAB - Saturday, September 17, 9:30-12pmEST** - first in a series of monthly Community TABs).

Meeting adjourned 8:12 pm