



## Wakefield Human Rights Commission General Meeting

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by Zoom

*Commissioners Present:* Jessica Sutich, Jillian Dymont, Sherri Oken, Teresa Aravena-Gonzalez

*Commissioners Absent:* Olivia Dannenberg, , Jeremy Little, Geeticka Upmanyu

*Liaisons and Ad Hoc Members present:* Amy Rando, Steve Maio, Mehreen Butt, Pete Davis (representing the school), Stephanie Hsu, Glavia Smith

*Non-Voting Commissioner Absent:* Rabbi Greg Hersh

7:03 pm Call to order

1. Guest – Stephanie Hsu, Quabbin Mediation TAB – Training Active Bystanders
  - a. Gave a rundown on the training that they do
  - b. They offer 2.5 hour community training and train the trainer programs
  - c. School training: They train students and run train the trainer program so they can go in and train middle schoolers
    - i. Students get community service credit
  - d. Community training: \$450 for 2 trainers. Groups of 10-30 in person or virtual
    - i. Train the trainer (any age): \$200/person 3 day/3hrs a day.
      1. You can join a larger group.
  - e. Amy Rando: Can possibly split the cost. WAAV can co-sponsor
  - f. Stephanie Hsu will send a sheet with info.**
  - g. Sherri suggested joining in with Stoneham/Melrose/etc. to get enough people.
  - h. Sherri will send out possible dates.**
2. Approval of August 2023 HRC general meeting minutes
  - a. Not enough voting members present. Will postpone to the next meeting.
3. Operations
  - a. Financial Report
    - i. Nothing has been expended for the June events. Follow up to ensure those vendors get paid.
    - ii. Sherri needs to be reimbursed for Hate Has No Home signs
  - b. Electronic Storage of Documents and Graphics
    - i. Steve Maio recommended using Teams to comply with the Open Meeting Laws and Freedom of Information Act
    - ii. Everyone who wants access will set up Microsoft accounts**
    - iii. Jess will share with people when there are files up.**
  - c. Open Commissioner seats
    - i. Everyone to share with people to recruit new members
4. Activities – finalize fall calendar
  - a. Hispanic Heritage Commemoration: Teresa presented
    - i. October 15<sup>th</sup>: Dan McGrath contacted for using ACE
    - ii. Reached out to Berkeley and East Boston for music/educational Event.
    - iii. Teresa to Create a Save the Date. Use Canva.**
      1. Create something for the Digital Display in Americal and Library.
  - b. Indigenous People Commemoration
    - i. Not much progress.
    - ii. Jess to reach out to Olivia to suggest the Library and reach out to Catherine McDonald.**
  - c. Lecture Series: Jill presenting
    - i. Spoke with Alison Sharpstein, litigation fellow who spoke on affirmative action.
      1. **Jill to find out Cost and negotiate. Several hundred could be okay.**

2. Possibly offer on Zoom or it could be simulcast on WCAT.
3. Mondays at 7 as a possible time. November/February open months.
- ii. Reached out to PFLAG/NAGLY
- iii. **Jess to reach out to Catherine Dhingra from Health and Human Services to arrange a short presentation to us in a meeting about synergies between our groups.**
- iv. **Glavia will reach out to Ron (?) and will come back to the next meeting with a list of ideas for topics.**
- d. Town Events: Farmer's Market, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> Town Day
  - i. **Jess and Olivia to pick up materials for event. Use the box that says "Use on October 7<sup>th</sup>".**
  - ii. **Sherri will leave a shopping bag of materials to pick up.**
  - iii. **Jess to email Jill my address to get the Peace flags.**
    1. For anyone who picks up a flag, consider making a donation to the org.
  - iv. **Teresa will send a sign or something for HHC to put up.**
5. Thinking ahead: January MLK/CSK Commemoration
  - a. Refer to Eileen's email about what we should do for this and reach out to Rabbi Greg.
6. Matters not anticipated: None.
7. Action List:
  - a. Stephanie Hsu will send a sheet with info and Sherri will suggest possible dates.
  - b. Everyone who wants access to the Teams/Electronic Storage will set up Microsoft accounts and Jess will share with people when there are files up.
  - c. Teresa will Create a Save the Date for HHC including something for digital displays
  - d. Jill to find out cost for Alison Scharpstein (speaker on Affirmative action) and negotiate if needed.
  - e. Jess to reach out to Catherine Dhingra from Health and Human Services to arrange a short presentation to us in a meeting about synergies between our groups.
  - f. Glavia will reach out to Ron (?) and will come back to the next meeting with a list of ideas for topics.
  - g. Jess and Olivia to pick up materials for event. Use the box that says "Use on October 7<sup>th</sup>".
  - h. Sherri will leave a shopping bag of Town Day materials to pick up.
  - i. Jess to email Jill home address to get the Peace flags. Remind folks to consider making a donation to the organization.
8. Motion to Adjourn: 8:03, Made by Jess, Seconded by Jill. All approved.
9. Minutes respectfully submitted by Jessica Sutich