

**Wakefield Human Rights Commission  
MINUTES**

**DATE: Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 6:30 p.m. PLACE: WCAT Studios, 24 Hemlock Road, Wakefield, MA 01880**

**Present:**

Rev. Matthew Cadwell  
Chichi Canavan  
Isabel Castro  
Rich Greif  
Christina Joseph  
Pina Masciarelli  
Maria Muti  
Officer Amy Rando  
Chief Skory, ex-officio  
Benny Wheat

**Absent:**

Jen Boettcher  
Frankie Lawton

**Assistants from the public:**

Sue Herz  
Amanda Potter, LAI Human Services

**1. Call to order at 6:33**

**Welcome new appointment ChiChi Canavan.** Welcome and greetings from the commissioners present in the meeting to our new Commissioner ChiChi Canavan

**2. Approval of minutes, November 19, 2019 meeting.**

No comments

**3. Public Participation.**

Participation from Sue Herz. See number 4 for more details.

**4. "Conversations about Whiteness" course.**

Sue Herz informed members of the WHRC of "Conversations about Whiteness," a 5-week course exploring how white people can better understand and then dismantle racism. The seminar will take place in the Unitarian Universalist Church of Wakefield, starting on February 22, from 7:00-9:00.

**5. MA Indigenous Agenda – State Legislature**

WHRC Members are interested in this area. There are presently five types of legislation in the State Legislature related with the use of offensive mascots by academic institutions, and Indigenous People's Day. Commissioners of the WHRC agreed to do more independent research

on the topic before making decisions about endorsements or decisions. We also agreed to revisit this topic in future meetings.

## **6. Response plan to incidents in town**

### **- Subcommittee for community response templates**

Members of the Sub-committee ask to revisit this topic in the next meeting

## **7. Events**

### **- MLK Day review**

The event was a success. Wakefield residents attending were extremely generous when donating items to our WHRC. The issue of storage of care packages was discussed as there were more backpacks than Officer Amy Rando could hold in her working space.

### **International Women's Day 2020**

A sub-committee meeting will take place on February 12, 2020.

### **Pride Month**

No decisions yet

## **8. HRC open seats for April 30**

To be discussed in the next meeting. More information needed as far as the number of seats that need to be fill by new members or reappointed by commissioners already serving in the WHRC.

## **9. WHRC supplies storage update**

Town Council Julie Smith Galvin is working on finding a space in town to store WHRC belongings

## **10. Matters not anticipated for agenda** None

## **11. Review Action List and Adjournment.** Adjourned at 8:10

### **ACTION LIST**

Rich and Maria: research about dates of term of currently appointed WHRC members

Rich: research about the **MA Indigenous Agenda – State Legislature**

Benny: Find info about endorsing the **MA Indigenous Agenda – State Legislature**

Pina, Maria and Jen: work on emergency response

Amy: reach out to other local charities in need that will benefit from the WHRC, MLK Service Project.

Rich: send MLK event pictures to the Item

Benny: share links on to how to service and be involved.

Rich: follow up Maura Healey for International Women's Day.

Rich: follow up with Julie about storage