

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes December 12, 2018

Attendance: Margaret Adams, Joe Borsellino, Officer Michael Buckley, William Dashe, Chris Kelly, Amy Lafont , Diane Loud, Steve Heaslip

The Human Rights Commission convened at 6:00 PM at Dedham Middle School.

The Human Rights Commission discussed a logo for the Human Rights Commission. Will Dashe took input on the design of the logo. He will work on making an additional logo for consideration by HRC with his graphic arts class to then bring a final logo to the next meeting for approval from the HRC. These logos would be considered at the January 2019 HRC meeting.

The commission discussed HRC officers. A motion was made to have current officer slate for the HRC remain the same. Motion approved unanimously.

Joe Borsellino discussed the creation of a collection a Human Resource Resource list. Officer Buckley will share resources available through the Dedham Police Department with Joe Borsellino. Margaret Adams suggested a list of food pantries and where families can locate heat assistance. The HRC will work on the development of resource guide over the next three months.

Chris Kelly reported on some social media outreach. He started a Facebook page, and the Dr. King event has been shared on the page. He also started a Twitter page with the hashtag, @DedhamHuman Will Dashe asked about the creation of an Instagram account. All usernames and passwords for the social media accounts should be shared with Joe Borsellino as chair of the HRC.

Margaret Adams will ask Nancy Baker how we might get an email account for the Human Rights Commission for these social media accounts.

The Human Rights Commission discussed and confirmed food donations for the MLK event. The following have been committed:

- Rob Delaney shared with Joe Borsellino that he has been able to have donated 25 cases of water and 25 cheese pizzas.
- Stop and Shop Dedham
- Shaws
- Halfway Café will provide wings.
- MIT Endicott House will provide cookies
- TGI Fridays will provide finger appetizers
- Starbucks in Dedham Plaza will provide coffee.
- Wegman's provided a \$100 gift card.
- Ocean State Job Lot provided a \$200 gift card that can be used for paper plates and other supplies.
- King will provide pork sliders and meatballs.
- Salem Food will provide trays of food.
- Café Bagel will provide bagels.

Mike Welch, superintendent of schools, suggested the use of the school cafeteria van to collect the food from various vendors. Officer Michael Buckley and Chris Kelly will collect the food earlier in the day from the various vendors.

Officer Michael Buckley reported that Legacy Place has not yet committed, but he is still working with the marketing department to determine if they will be able to provide donations.

Flyers for the Dr. King event were distributed and encouraged to be distributed at town hall, Dedham Square, and the schools.

Revered Rali Weaver asked for support from the Human Rights Commission on their February social justice film series. Human Rights Commission voted unanimously to collaborate with the First Church in their February social justice film series. Suggestions for films can be emailed to Revered Rali Weaver, the pastor at the First Church in Dedham.

Joe Borsellino shared a list of ideas for other Human Rights Commission events. The HRC agreed to continue the discussion on possible spring events at the January meeting.

Chris Kelly shared an email in appreciation of the HRC's support of the documentary showing of "Condemned to Remember" at the Good Shepherd earlier this month.

At 6:42 PM, the Dedham Human Rights Commission joined the Dedham Public Schools Equity Task Force.

Mike Welch, superintendent of the Dedham Public Schools, shared that the Dedham High School Band and Chorus have been working on events and songs for the Dr. King event. In addition, the schools have promoted the MLK speech and poster contests.

With the Dedham Public Schools Equity Task Force, the HRC reviewed a draft of the program for the Dr. King event. Mike Welch will get the names of the student speakers and the names of the songs to be performed.

Mike Welch shared an event named, Mike Joy, that also had been sponsored by the Dover-Sherborn Public Schools. He asked for input on the event. He will pursue with the provider, Arts Emerson, to determine availability.

Mike Welch, superintendent of schools, provided an update on the schools progress on the Dedham Public Schools collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Safe and Supportive Schools. The middle school participated in continued discussion of the providing safe learning environment for LGBTQ students.

Mike Welch, superintendent of schools, shared a report on the issues of equity in the schools, "#1 for Some, Opportunity and Achievement in Massachusetts." The report highlights gaps in equity in education across the state of Massachusetts.

Next Dedham Equity Inclusion Task Force is on January 9th.

The Human Rights Commission adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Margaret Adams, Clerk Human Rights Commission