



Wakefield Human Rights Commission General Meeting

November 21th, 2023 by Zoom

Commissioners Present: Jessica Sutich, Jillian Dymont, Sherri Oken, Jeremy Little, Teresa Aravena-Gonzalez, Michaela Lyons (Student Representative), Olivia Dannenberg

Commissioners Absent: Rabbi Greg Hersh, Vanessa Westlake

Liaisons and Ad Hoc Members present: Amy Rando, Pete Davis (representing the school), Steven Skory, Jonathan Chines (town council), Mike McLane (town council)

Public: Julie Scott

7:03 pm Call to order

1. Roll Call
2. Julie Scott is present: Speaking on the issue of flags. Presenting the notion that the pride flag might be flown at the town building. Suggesting that the town celebrate the centennial.
3. Jonathan Chines is presenting the Flag Policy and Soliciting WHRC help
 - a. Jonathan Chines covered the policy details to provide some context.
 - b. Councilor McLane mentioned that this is a work in progress not a final product
 - c. Questions were presented by commissioners and answered by council members.
4. Operational Status
 - a. Financial: We have funds available for programs
 - b. Storage
 - i. All physical materials are stored back at the town(physical and virtual)
 - ii. Virtual materials are now up on the shared drive and when people have outlook accounts, **Jess will give them access. Send event materials to Jess and she can add them to the shared drive.**
5. Activities
 - a. Affirmative Action Zoom – Jill to share what she learned about planning and coordination of this virtual program
 - i. Library is needed if events are to have a registration
 - ii. Look into library's ability to record meetings to be able to share to a wider audience
 - b. MLK/CSK Day (Monday, Jan. 15th at the Galvin) Planning – Theme: "Shifting the Cultural Climate through the Study and Practice of Kingian Nonviolence"
 - i. Fill out the availability spreadsheet for helping to plan this. Olivia and Jeremy are already on board.
 1. Aspects of the event include welcome, invocation (clergy), guest speaker (political representative), award presentations (community service, coloring, poetry), music and dance performances and readings by children, announcement of community service project
 - c. Recent meetings about coordination with the Wakefield Health & Human Services Dept.
 - i. Amy Chiaravalloti, Wellness & Prevention Coordinator
 1. Will be attending the Active Bystanders/Upstanders Program
 - ii. Catherine Dhingra, Prevention, Outreach & Youth Services Manager, Grants Specialist

1. Excited to help with International Women's Day: "Inspire Inclusion"
 2. "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality--This theme focuses on how technology and education in the digital age can help the empowerment of women and girls across the world."
6. Approval of past minutes (**Jess will send to Sherri Dalton subsequent to approval**):
 - a. June General Meeting Minutes:
 - i. Olivia made a motion to approve, Teresa second: All approve.
 - b. July General Meeting Minutes:
 - i. Jess made a motion to approve, Sherri second. All approve.
 - c. August General Meeting minutes:
 - i. Jill made a motion to approve, Jeremy second. All approve.
 - d. September General Meeting minutes:
 - i. Jeremy motion to approve, Teresa second. All approve.
 - e. October General Meeting minutes:
 - i. Sherri made a motion to approve, Jess second. All approve.
7. Position policy discussion to ensure a coherent WHRC response to global events that is cohesive and supportive of mission and goal while keeping in mind that this is a commission of volunteers.
 - a. Tabled for the next meeting to make sure enough time is allotted for discussion
8. Final event suggestion from Jill: Understanding our differences. Potential to partner with evening zoom to join with PTO and Michaela can reach out to the Youth Council
9. Matters not anticipated: None
10. Action Items:
 - a. Jess will send approved minutes to Sherri Dalton
 - b. Jess will add items to shared drive that she receives from commissioners who have run events in the past
11. Motion to Adjourn at 8:08. By Sherri, seconded by Teresa. All approve. Adjourned.
12. Minutes respectfully submitted by Jessica Sutich