

**THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of July 9, 2019**

Commissioners Present—Hattie Kerwin Derrick, Jane Brown, Eric Gurvis, Eli Ingraham, David Kuppenheimer, Tamika Olszewski  
Commissioners Absent – Bryan Barash, Brooke Welles  
Advisory Council Present—Bruce Apotheker  
Student Representatives Present—Nathan Persampieri  
Guests –Dana Hanson, Greer Swiston, Philip Vergragt, Alexander Voros, Marian Voros  
Staff to the Commission – Shin-Yi Lao

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The meeting was called to order by Hattie Kerwin Derrick, Chair, at 7:10 p.m. in room B15 in Newton City Hall.

1. Introductions
2. Minutes: minutes from March, April, and May 2019 approved
3. Hate incidents:
  - No hate incidents to report
4. Complaints received
  - Two complaints were received. Both were related to housing, one was also related to disabilities. HHS staff are working with Jini Fairley (ADA coordinator) and Rachel Powers (staff to the Fair Housing Commission) to address the complaints.
5. Student reports
  - Newton South HS – no representatives present
  - Newton North HS –Nathan Persampieri
    - Nothing to report
6. Pride debrief
  - Pride went well, approximately 100 in attendance
  - Would like to continue to encourage youth presence
  - Liked the pairing of Pride with the Newton Cares event. Would like to do the same next year.
7. Budget
  - S. Lao reported the expenditures for FY2018
  - Discussed setting priorities for FY2019 budget, including training
8. Book salon/collaboration with Newton Public Library – progress update from E. Ingraham
  - Six names have been submitted to Newton Inspires to speak on a panel about achievement gaps
  - Additional social justice reading lists have been created for adults and teens. The teen list will be sent to student representatives and the Youth Commission for feedback. Send any feedback on either list to E. Ingraham by 7/31/19.
  - There will be a human rights book display at the Newton Free Library in December
  - The book club will hopefully be launched in the fall. The first book will be “Waking up White”
9. HRC Newsletter
  - Send articles to H. Kerwin Derrick by 8/9/19
  - E. Gurvis suggested reaching out to Newton at Home to submit an article
10. December
  - Nominations for the Human Rights Award can be submitted via the nomination form
  - Discussion of possible Gann Academy Presentation, possibly linked to the Human Rights Award ceremony

Meeting adjourned at 7:55. Next meeting on September 17, 2019 at 7pm in room B15 of Newton City Hall.  
Respectfully submitted by Hattie N. Kerwin Derrick