

**THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**NOTES OF THE JANUARY 13, 2016 MEETING**

Commissioners Present— Hattie Kerwin Derrick, Dianne Chilingerian, Sheila Mondshein , Jane Brown, Holly Ryan and Nicola Curtin

Commissioners Not Present – Bryan Barash

Advisory Council Present—Lt Bruce Apotheke and Frank Wolpe

Student Representatives Present — None

Guests – Steven Hassan

Staff to the Commission – Linda Walsh

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1. Hate Crimes Report

- NNHS swastika found in the bathroom
- Myrtle Baptist Church – swastika on playground equipment
- New Chief
- Opiod Event “Just Think”

2. HRC award discussion

- Work with the principals to get the HS students more involved engaged in the event
- CC: parents in the invitation
- Venue – perhaps look at the community room at the police station although, nothing wrong with the Senior Center
- Perhaps it is the timing work to get more information in the media
- 2016 look at a person who would draw a crowd. Holly Gunner had previously been discussed for 2016. There was consensus this was a good person. David Sellers, Boys & Girls Club, was also mentioned.

3. Programming

- February – Racial/Social Justice- Nicola Curtin and Brooke Wells
  - February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30
  - Hosted by First Unitarian Society of Newton (FUSN)
  - Draft of flier was handed out
  - 1 hour presentation – for parents of children aged 4 -10
  - Food donations will be sought; may need a vote at the February meeting for money to supplement.
  - Discussion regarding distribution of the flier
  - Discussion regarding Honorarium for Madeline
  - Brooke, Nicole, Linda and Hattie to discuss the flier
- April – Genocide – Diane Viviana and Sheila
  - Sheila discussed Facing History will obtain additional information
  - Discussion regarding where this could be done? Gallery Wall in the library? City Hall library?
  - Perhaps a digital production of the display which, could be put on the HRC website or be used in the future
  - 2017 – look at a community event and have a memory wall
- June – Pride
  - June 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Work on obtaining a new/user friendly flag pole

4. Appointments

- Nicola and Bryan are all set
- Reappointments for Sheila Mondshein, Dianne Chilingerian and Jane Brown need to be docketed
- Holly Ryan will receive her appointment letter in the mail.

5. Meeting Schedule/time

- Discussion regarding a new meeting date. Concerns due to other commitments/meetings.
- Meeting time changed to 7p to start in February.

New Business:

- HS Students
  - Work on getting a couple who will be able to attend
- MLK Day 10a – Our Lady’s Church
  - Discussion of HRC involvement in the future
- Holly Ryan indicated she would like the Brazilian Workers Center to come and present to HRC.
- Recognition of Past members
  - Who?
  - Connect books with the recipients
  - Recognize – December 2016

Next meeting, **Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 7p @ the Health and Human Services office**

The location of this meeting is handicap accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons requiring assistance. If you need a special accommodation, please contact John Lojek, at least two days in advance of the meeting: [jlojek@newtonma.gov](mailto:jlojek@newtonma.gov), or 617-796-1064. For Telecommunications Relay Service dial 711.