

THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Minutes of September 13, 2022

Commissioners Present – Rabbi Keith Stern, Cindy Greene, Jane Brown, Eli Ingraham, Rakashi Chand

Commissioners Absent – Tamika Olszewski

Advisory Council Present – Lt Bruce Apotheker, Eric Rosenbaum

Student Representatives Present –

Guests – Kathy Laufer, Eliza Spaulding

Staff to the Commission – Shemeka Hill

The meeting was called to order by Rabbi Keith Stern at 7:25 pm

1. Introductions
2. Minutes from July 05, 2022, meeting approved.
3. Newton police report – Lt Bruce Apotheker & Eric Rosenbaum
 - There have been no biased related incidents or crimes in Newton
 - Incident involving Newton South Football team in Westford. A student from Newton South HS was called an Asian slur on the football field in Westford. Coaches and referees were notified of the incident. Coaching staff from Westford spoke to Newton team after the game. The school has already followed up with the student.
4. Complaints received – Shemeka Hill
 - None received this month
5. Student reports –
 - None received this month
6. Updates from the Mayor’s Office –
 - None received this month
7. Updates from Commissioners
 - Discussion about possible program that would hold conversations in the 13 villages of Newton about hate crimes/biased related incidents.
 - Discussion about the creation of a response team when hate crimes/biased related incidents happen.
 - Discussion about roles and responsibilities of the commission.
 - Discussion about updating HRC website.

8. Upcoming Events Announcements

- Discussion about the process for recruitment of new HRC commissioners.
- Discussion of upcoming Human Rights Award honoree.

9. Public Comment

- None received this month

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Next meeting will be October 06, 2022, on Zoom

Respectfully submitted by Newton Health and Human Services Department