

Town of Hamilton
Meeting Minutes

Board/Committee Name: Hamilton Human Rights Commission

Date of Meeting: December 15, 2021

The Human Rights Commission met virtually

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82330325623?pwd=UFhEd3JPcINDTDhuaTJSYzJQaXB0dz09#success>

Meeting ID: 823 3032 5623

Passcode: 075594

Date of Acceptance: 02-16-2022

Attendees: Maya Beach, Anne Brady, Joe Domelowicz, Jared Hughes, Jamie Knudsen, Nancy Stehfest, Russell Stevens, Alaina Walsh.

Absent: Christina Holz

Agenda items were taken out of order. For reference purposes the agenda item number is listed in parentheses

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Brady at 5:03 PM

2. Public Comment

J. Gross of the Wenham Human Rights Committee, (WHRC) gave an update on the status of the joint statement on hate speech/discrimination. The WHRC voted to approve the joint statement. No other public comment at this time.

3. Consent Agenda

No Discussion

Motion: *To approve the consent agenda*

Made by: J. Hughes

Seconded by: R. Stevens

Result: On a roll call vote, the motion passed

4. (7) Update on Patton Park Garden Project

N. Stehfest remarked on meeting with Tim Olson of DPW and Sean Timmons of the HW Recreation Department at Patton Park to discuss potential site location of garden. M. Beach presented on possible location. She also mentioned involving other community groups in the project once the BOS has reviewed. J. Hughes spoke of designing a garden path that could alleviate some of the flooding issues in the area. Discussed timing of presenting to the BOS. J. Domelowicz suggested possible next steps. J. Knudsen suggested steps to present to BOS. R. Stevens raised issue of cost of upkeep and need to plan. Discussed timing of presenting to BOS. J. Domelowicz suggested February may be a good time to present to the BOS. J. Hughes will be meeting with a subject matter expert to discuss design and cost.

5. (6) Vote on Definition Section to HRC policy (get to Selectboard)

J. Hughes reviewed final version of document.

Motion: *Accept the Definitions Section of the HRC Policy*

Made by: N. Stehfest

Seconded by: J. Knudsen

Result: On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

6. (8) ADA status Town Hall/Town Buildings Statement-Discussion and Vote

Discussion of edits and corrections.

Motion: *Accept the Updated Statement of ADA Town Hall/Town Buildings Accessibility*

Made by: J. Hughes

Seconded by: J. Knudsen

Result: On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

7. (5) Update on Inclusivity/Acceptance Forum and Bystander Training

J. Hughes stated a meeting is planned for Monday, 12-20-21.

J. Knudsen asked about timeline. More information following 12-20-21 meeting

8. (4) Discussion and Possible Vote on Proclamation re: Hate Speech/Discrimination

A. Brady presented draft document approved by WHRC.

Motion: *To approve and authorize proclamation with any minor edits*

Made by: J. Knudsen

Seconded by: J. Hughes

Result: On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

9. Update on status of BOS action on proposed flag policy

J. Domelowicz provided update. The Supreme Court will be hearing case regarding flag flying. Town Counsel has advised the Town they may want to hold off on implementing policy. Multiple board members expressed concern for June 2022 flag raising ceremonies. J. Knudsen provided background of Supreme Court case. HRC will discuss issue in the Spring.

10. Town DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) issues discussion

J. Knudsen suggested tabling discussion until next meeting

11. New Business for Future Meetings

Update on the translation line.

12. Adjourn

Motion: *To Adjourn (6:13 PM)*

Made by: R. Stevens

Seconded by: J. Knudsen

Result: On a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Documents Discussed at Meeting

- Draft Statement on Town's ADA Compliance
- HRC Charter
- Draft Appendix A to HRC Charter
- Draft Meeting Minutes of the HRC's 11-17-2021 Meeting

Minutes prepared by: Nancy Stehfest

Respectfully submitted as approved at 02-16-2022 meeting. Nancy Stehfest, Clerk

