



**BARNSTABLE COUNTY
HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

POST OFFICE BOX 427
BARNSTABLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02630
Office Contact: 508-375-6611
www.barnstablecountyhrc.org

Minutes of BC-HRAC Meeting

Monday, August 12, 2019

5:00 – 6:30 PM

Harborview Room - County Complex, Rte 6A, Barnstable village

**HR-Advisory Commission Members:
Council:**

*Kate Epperly, Vice Chair
*Patricia Oshman
*Alan Milsted, Chair
*David Schropfer
*Paul Thompson
Four vacancies

Members of former Town Representation

Theresa Santos, Barnstable
Dominique Rapoza, Bourne
Gail Wilson, Mashpee
Pastor Brenda Haywood, Provincetown
Alyssa Sidal, Sandwich
* Pat Armstrong, Yarmouth

BC-Human Rights Coordinator:

*Deb'orah Battles

BC-HRAC Assembly of Delegates Liaison:

Brian O'Malley, Delegate for Provincetown

Community Members – Guests Morgan Peters

* Indicates officers/staff present for the meeting.

The meeting was **called to order** at 5:25 pm by Alan Milsted, Chair

1. **Call to Order**, welcome, and introductions, including new Coordinator, Deborah Battles
2. **Membership**: Resignation of Commissioner John Hanlon, Motion to Accept: Paul Thompson; seconded: Dave Schropfer. Approved Unanimously, with a letter of Thanks to be drafted
3. **Approval of Minutes** of last Meeting, June 3, 2019. Paul Thompson clarified that was present; Patricia made a Motion to Accept with the addition of Paul as attending, Motion seconded by Kate, Minutes Accepted Unanimously.

4. Process for Appointment of New Advisory Commission Members: Alan led the discussion regarding the need for recruiting new members asap as there are now only 5 Commission Members on the BCHRAC. BC Human Services Department will assist with the process, as in the past. An outline of the previous procedure and list for criteria for potential candidates was reviewed. Alan reminded the group of the lengthy time frame and the impetus to proceed forthwith. Specific Dates for receipt of applications, once agreed, must be adhered to. David emphasized the need to generate diversity in all aspects to the HRAC. David also offered to work on PSAs and other forms of publicity with the Cape Cod Times and others. Outreach methods were discussed, and the Coordinator will help to get notices out to various human services & community groups, with a request to forward to their constituent mailing lists for a comprehensive outreach, and to others who have been associated with BCHRC. Alan asked that contact details of anyone who has already expressed an interest in becoming a Commission Member be forwarded to the Coordinator, so they can be sent details of the application process, once it has been finalized.

Joint Panel of Health & Human Services Advisory Committee & BCHRAC, which is charged with reviewing applications, conducting interviews and making recommendations for appointment as members of BCHRAC: Kate nominated David Schropfer & Theresa Santos to the Panel, with herself as an Alternate. Alan made the motion, and Trish seconded it. Motion was unanimously approved.

5. Fall Human Rights Academy (HRA) Planning: Trish & Paul will again take the lead on this. Trish noted that Larry Brown is still interested in assisting, following his retirement, and stated that the 'Friends of the BCHRAC' will provide Refreshments, once again. Paul mentioned that Jean Morrison volunteered to assist also. Trish reiterated the need to reach out to schools who haven't recently or already participated. Paul would like a list of schools who have previously participated. Deb will assist with outreach. There was discussion of recruiting more groups representing human rights & human services to participate in presentations and how to go about this. General discussion of selecting a date which does not conflict with school testing, etc. Trish reminded the group this would need to wait until school starts and calendars are fleshed out. The Location will be at the Cape Cod Academy, as in the past. Vendors must be contacted asap, which was assigned to Deb to follow up on. There was a discussion of a Speaker, with Trish suggesting Brenda Swain, Direct of the Falmouth Service Center. No decision was made regarding this at this time. Trish will provide more comprehensive information for next meeting on Sept. 9th as the HR Academy planning comes together.

6. Interfaith Dialogue – Kate relayed that there had been some discussion of a Forum, similar to No Place for Hate, on October 6th, however, with several other community events coming up during the Fall, it may be that the HRAC would be better served to Collaborate with other groups. No decision was made on this.

7. BCHRAC Meeting Times – David mentioned that the Monthly Monday evening Meetings tend to conflict with other town meetings, which might be limiting towns from participating...there was general discussion, which was tabled to next meeting.

8. Human Rights Day Awards & Breakfast Planning: Tuesday, December 10th. The Venue and location will again be the Hyannis Golf Club, Iyannough Road.

Theresa Santos, lately the Barnstable Town Representative, is kindly continuing to coordinate arrangements, and provided a summary of key dates and tasks.

Members of the HRAC are asked to consider pursuing fundraising/sponsorship avenues.

The 'Friends of the HRC' need to be asked to provide a letter to the golf club manager, in recognition of the reduced rate again being charged, for tax purposes.

9. Public Comment: Morgan Peters, (Wampanoag) guest this evening per invitation by Trish, may be interested in joining the BCHRAC, and offered to consider providing entertainment for the Awards Breakfast, as he is the leader of a well-known Multi-Cultural Jazz group on Cape Cod, "The GroovaLottos". This was received with enthusiasm by the group.

10. HRAC Commissioners Updates: Dave has been attending the Statewide Human Rights group, discussed the need to collaborate with Law Enforcement, and announced an upcoming event at the State House to take place on October 25th, 2019. Dave was asked to forward details of the event to the Coordinator, and to alert all members of the Cape and Islands delegation to the legislature, asking for their active support.

11. Coordinator's Report: Deb provided a written report in advance of the meeting covering the many activities of the 3 weeks she has been on board with the BCHRAC.

12. New Business. No discussion.

Meeting Adjourned, 6:30 pm by Alan Milsted, Chair (Motion to Adjourn by Kate; seconded by Dave. Approved unanimously.)

Next meeting: Monday, September 9th, 2019, **5:00, Harborview Room,** BC Complex (note change of time).

Respectfully Submitted, Deb'orah Battles, BC-Human Rights Coordinator