



## BARNSTABLE COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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<http://www.barnstablecountyhrc.org>

# Barnstable County Human Rights Commission

Harborview Room, Barnstable County Complex  
3195 Main Street, Barnstable, MA 02630  
Monday, February 5, 2018

### Draft Minutes

#### Commissioners

- \* Barbara Burgo
- \* Alan Milsted
- \* Kate Epperly
- \* Richard Lavoie
- \* Patricia Oshman
- \* Paul Thompson
- \* Richard Vengroff

#### Town Representatives

- Theresa Santos, Barnstable
- \*Michelle Spinney, Bourne
- \*David Schropfer, Eastham
- \* Scoba Rhodes, Falmouth
- \*Gail Wilson, Mashpee
- Pastor Brenda Haywood, Provincetown
- Laurie Veninger, Truro
- Robert Isadore, Yarmouth
- Cheryl Frye-Cromwell, Wampanoag Tribe
- \*Alyssa Sidal, Sandwich

2 Commissioner vacancies

Town Representative Vacancies: Dennis, Orleans, Chatham, Brewster, Harwich, and Wellfleet

\*Indicates Commissioners and Town Representatives present for the meeting

**Commissioner Emerita:** Jacqueline P. Fields

**Coordinator:** Vacant

Sign-in sheet on file.

1. The meeting at 5:30 with Commissioners and Town Representatives introducing themselves and briefly giving some personal background and their reasons for becoming involved with BCHRC, in an exercise led by Vice-Chair Kate Epperly.
2. Chair Alan Milsted then welcomed Chief Frederickson, Yarmouth Chief of Police, and Chair of the C&I Police Chief's Association.
3. Chief Frederickson spoke about human rights as seen from a law enforcement perspective. He talked about the various services: local police (15 towns). State, College, ICE, and Sheriff, and how they work by engaging and communicating with the public. One issue is who responds to each type of violation: sex trafficking, LGBT, Elderly, Transgender, and Labor trafficking with persons with expiring visas, employers threatening to send back to their abusive home country police. He talked about the success of Community policing and the 6 pillars. He welcomed a variety of questions about communication with the public, which he and others from the Police Community are happy to discuss, with emphasis on protecting human rights and enforcing related regulations. In addition, he offered that visiting him in his office would be the best way to see and learn what and how they do this job. The chair expressed interest in holding a special meeting there.
4. An amendment was proposed to the minutes of December 4, 2017, to add consideration of a proposal from Theresa Santos to sponsor the first ROAR (Ride for Opiate Addiction Recovery) event; and to request a donation from the Friends of BCHRC. The amendment was agreed unanimously, and the minutes were then approved.

5. The minutes of the meeting held on January 8, 2018 were approved unanimously.
6. The Commissioners acknowledged receiving the Barnstable County Code of Conduct given out at the December 5, 2017 meeting. Members raised questions about possible sanctions against those who breached the Code; and how the section on relations with County officers applied to BCHRC.
7. Report of the Chair was distributed separately. The Vice Chair indicated we should proceed to hire the interim and continue to fulfill our mission. And we should continue to seek letters of support for later presentation to the County Administrator.
8. Budget Updates: The funds available for the open position of coordinator was stated as being \$8,000 for the remainder of FY 2018. The calendar for FY 2019 budget was provided: Commissioners and Town Representatives were urged to attend County Commissioner and Assembly of Delegates (including Committee) meetings through the end of the budget-making process.

The Commission discussed the effort to keep communication lines open and awareness of the issues available by copying Jack Yunits and others in the Administrator's office. It was noted that the committee was seeking a part-time Coordinator, but meantime, no phone service, website or correspondence is available. Since people can't reach us they'll have to contact the office of the County Administrator.

9. Because two Commissioners were away on 5 March, it was agreed to reschedule the March meeting to March 12, at Mashpee Public Library.
10. The second reading of the request for support of ROAR (Ride for Opiate Addiction Recovery), first considered at December meeting.
11. The Commission discussed establishing the following suggested Standing Committees, including appointing Conveners. All Committees would be responsible for identifying and proposing specific actions to address human rights issues.

No decisions were made, except confirming that Rick Lavoie had agreed to Chair the Education Committee (which includes responsibility for the Human Rights Academy). All Commissioners were reminded that no more than four Commissioners might meet or discuss Commission business without declaring a public meeting.

12. The Workplace Behavior booklet was discussed. It was agreed that the copy should be shortened, and a list of distribution possibilities was discussed, including: Social media, Town Halls, Hospitals, J1 visitors, businesses hiring J1's. Issues such as languages (English, Portuguese and Spanish as well as sending country's primarily East bloc national languages). Copy should include unfair labor practices.
13. **Executive Session** Pursuant to MGL c.30A, sec. 21 (a)(1), (a) (7), and (a) (9), the Commissioners voted 7-0 to enter Executive Session, after which the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

**Next meeting:** Monday, March 12, 2018, at Mashpee Public Library, 64 Steeple St, Mashpee, 5:30 pm, preceded at 4:30 by Town Representatives' meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

David Schropfer  
Eastham Town Representative