



**BARNSTABLE COUNTY  
HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

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**Minutes of BC-HRAC Meeting  
Monday, September 9, 2019  
5:00 – 6:30 PM**

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

**HR-Advisory Commission Members:**

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

**Members of former Town Representation  
Council:**

\*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

\* Indicates those present for the meeting.

**Also present:**

**BC-HRAC Assembly of Delegates Liaison:**

Brian O'Malley, Delegate for Provincetown

**Community Members – Guests with Patricia Oshman** - Angelica Oshman (for Item 8) and Sarah Oshman

1. The meeting was **called to order** at 5:07 pm by Alan Milsted. Those present introduced themselves.
2. **Approval of Minutes** of last Meeting, August 12th, 2019. Patricia Oshman made a Motion to Accept; Motion seconded by David Schopfer. Minutes Accepted Unanimously.
3. There were no **Public Comments**

**4. Process for Appointment of Advisory Commission Members:** Alan led the discussion regarding the process and timeline to fill vacancies as soon as possible, as there are ~~now~~ currently only 5 of 9 Commission Members. Alan & Deb met with Beth Albert & Maria Silva from the BC Human Services Department, to review the process. A joint panel of three representatives of Health & Human Services Advisory Council and two from HRAC. It was noted that it had been decided at the previous meeting that the BCHRAC representatives will be Theresa Santos and David Schropfer, with Kate Epperly as an alternate.

Deb presented an updated Time line, PSA Draft, Tools for interviewing and Job Description (now entitled "Member Responsibilities"). Revisions were made to interview tools to omit references to "mediation" and to add in "Leadership" and "Followership" experience. Kate made a motion to accept, Patricia Oshman seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Deb will get PSA out as soon as possible to a media list, other agencies, and into the next edition of the BC-Human Services Newsletter which comes out 9-20-19, along with Sonja for posting.

The Deadline for receipt of Letters of Interest, Bios or Resumes was revised and agreed upon to be **Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm**. All applications will be immediately date stamped, and closing date will be strictly adhered to. Members continued to emphasize 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. Deb will contact and send application information to anyone who has already expressed an interest in becoming a Commission Member. Members were asked to forward contact details of individuals who might be interested to the Coordinator. Interviews are slated to be held in the Innovation Room the week of October 21<sup>st</sup> (Specific date(s)/time(s) to be determined). Those who are selected to become members will be invited to attend the November HRAC monthly meeting. By December, the names of those selected should be forwarded to the County Commissioners for approval, so that they will be appointed to begin January 1, 2020. Alan made a motion to specify a beginning date of January 1<sup>st</sup>, regardless of when a new member is appointed, Trish seconded this motion and it was approved unanimously.

**5. Fall Human Rights Academy (HRA) Planning:** Trish & Paul took the lead on this and updated the HRAC. Trish has been working with Keith Lewison from CC Academy, who has also been in contact with Deb. Larry Brown is still interested in assisting, following his retirement, and stated that the 'Friends of the BCHRAC' will provide Refreshments, once again. After discussion of available dates of either 10-23 or 10-30, it was decided that the preference of the group was 10-30, because of other activities on or around 10-23, if that date works with the schools involved. The Academy will again be hosted by Cape Cod Academy. There was a discussion of potential Speakers. Deb and Trish will coordinate with Keith, with Trish taking the lead to continue to provide update the HRAC.

**6. Human Rights Day Awards & Breakfast Planning: Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.** Theresa Santos is continuing to coordinate arrangements, and provided a summary of key dates and tasks. She will provide Deb with a revised PSA requesting nominations for Awards. The Venue and location will again be the Hyannis Golf Club, Iyannough Road. There was general discussion of potential Key Note Speakers. Members will follow up on this.

7. **Massachusetts Association of Human Rights and Relations Commission (MAHRC)** David provided updates on this event which will focus on Law Enforcement and Human Rights. The forum will be held in Boston on **Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. David was asked to contact members of the legislature representing the County's districts, to encourage their support. He offered to provide transportation to interested HRAC members.

8. **National Coming Out Day: GLOW & Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) – Weds. October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00 – 7:30 pm**– Trish brought forward information regarding a Falmouth wide LGBTQIA Panel which will present a discussion called “Decoding the Alphabet Soup” to talk about related issues. A Draft letter from WHOI was circulated outlining the event. Kate made a motion for the HRAC to be supportive of this event, Trish seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **“No Place for Hate” Interfaith Dialogue – October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. Kate and Paul (who is working with the NAACP on this) provided updates on the forum. Kate read the Town of Barnstable's Mission Statement regarding this. Trish made a motion to support this event, Dave seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

9. **Assembly of Delegates – Rep.** Delegate Brian O'Malley discussed the Tim Fund, in memory of Tim McCarthy who was a Cape videographer who worked with the Ugandan people and passed away last year. He discussed a “Human Rights Champion” Award from this group and suggested perhaps the award announcement could take place at the HRAC Awards Breakfast on December 10<sup>th</sup>. There was general discussion regarding this, but no decision was made.

11. **Coordinator's Report:** Deb reported she has been quite busy and provided a written monthly report detailing August activities, and upcoming events she is planning to attend, with an invitation to any members of the HRAC who wish to accompany her.

12. **New Business.** No discussion.

**Meeting Adjourned,** Upon the departure of Member Trish Oshman, the meeting ceased to have a quorum, and was, accordingly adjourned at 6:30 pm by Alan Milsted.

**Next meeting scheduled:** Monday, October 7th, 2019, **5:30, Harborview Room,** BC Complex

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb'orah Battles, BC-Human Rights Coordinator