

## Borough of Doylestown Human Relations Commission

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 – 7pm

**Attendance:** Caroline Brinker, Mayor Noni West, Fred Stanczak, Linda Quinn, Doreen Stratton, Maxine Katz, Freda Savana, John Fraser, Evelyn Rodriguez, Stephen Albert, and Student Member Ellen Winters.

The **Minutes** of the November 2021 meeting were approved as submitted.

**Rainbow Room Presentation.** Marlene Pray introduced the history and focus of the Rainbow Room, which is now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year. Marlene started with Planned Parenthood in an outreach position. Schools in the area were found to be lacking in LGBTQ+ issues and support, and The Rainbow Room was begun. Currently, meetings are held at Salem Church. Marlene, along with Don Berk, worked hard to have an anti-discrimination ordinance passed in the Borough. The group has worked with LGBTQ+ youth in the community to encourage education, advocacy and recreation. Marlene noted there are many people still not aware The Rainbow Room exists; the group agreed that collaboration would be key to reach more people, especially with Rainbow Room events. The events are planned and overseen by youth in the group, and the Commission members agreed they could help with events, such as the Rainbow Room's annual prom.

Marlene mentioned two other new programs, ROYGBIV and Raising Rainbows Inclusive Play Group, which meet in Doylestown and includes younger kids before they can join The Rainbow Room, and their families. The group also discussed other groups in the area, including GLISTEN, which offers support for teachers with lesson plans and trainings, and PFLAG, which helps families of the LGBTQ+ community.

**Community Partnerships Subcommittee.** Doreen is still working on getting contacts with NAACP and NAMI.

**New/Old Business.** None

Meeting adjourned: 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kramer

Minutes Secretary