

Borough of Doylestown Human Relations Commission

Date: February 24, 2021
Scheduled Time: 7:00PM
Via Zoom

Present:

Frederick Stanczak, Stephen Albert, Sharyn Brauns, Nancy Reilly, Linda Quinn, Maxine Katz, and John Fraser

Also Present:

John Davis, Borough Manager, Mayor Ron Strouse and Ms. Gayle Evans, Director of Community Programming, The Peace Center

Mr. Stanczak called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Albert clarified under January 27, 2021 meeting minutes; the term "conversion" should be "conversation". The Commission unanimously approved the January 27, 2021 meeting minutes with this correction.

Draft Letter to Legislators: Mr. Stanczak asked the Commission if they had any additional additions/corrections to add to the letter. The Commission had no further comments. Mr. Davis clarified which Legislators the letter would be mailed to and the Commission agreed the letter should be mailed to all Pennsylvania Members of the United States Congress and United States Senate.

Youth Event: Mr. Stanczak introduced Ms. Evans to the Commission. Ms. Evans suggested the Commission look at what their next steps are, how to get the youth involved and do they want to move more towards being in the community. Mr. Stanczak opened it up to the Commission for further discussion. Mayor Strouse added that the HRC did a great job with reaching out to the community regarding racism, however he feels that the Commission needs to go one step further and suggested the HRC have a strategic planning session. Mr. Stanczak spoke on behalf of the Commission stating they would like to further develop their vision within the community and suggested he could reach out to the Chairperson at the Bucks County Human Relations Council to look for ideas on how to promote their outreach. He could invite the Chairperson to attend the next HRC meeting. Ms. Evans commented that Doylestown Borough is the "hub" and the unofficial meeting place for the area organizations. She suggested that HRC use that as a tool to similar organizations such as theirs. Ms. Evans also recommended a Youth Member to sit on the Human Relations Commission and stated HRC members should attend one of the Peace Center's Workshops for training purposes. She would be happy to introduce the Commission to other area organizations. She will email Mr. Davis her thoughts on how to proceed. Mr. Davis asked Ms. Evans she had any suggestions concerning the immigration issue and Ms. Evans stated she will line someone up to assist with this.

Mr. Stanczak floated the idea of a subcommittee to further explore the HRC vision. Ms. Quinn, Ms. Katz and Ms. Reilly offered to sit on this Committee.

Old/New Business: Ms. Katz asked the Commission if they had been approved to seek out a Youth Member. Mr. Davis commented the Ordinance must be passed first and a student did apply to be on this Commission. Mr. Davis said this member could start in May 2021.

Adjournment: The Human Relations Commission adjourned at 8:07pm.