

Metuchen Human Relations Commission

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Start Time: 7:36pm

	1. Joel Branch (Council Liaison)		2. Khalila Cruz (Member)	✓	3. Shannan Foat-Gelber (Member)
✓	4. Rebecca Greenbaum (Member)	✓	5. Laura Hermans (Secretary)		6. Jacqueline Ho (Member)
	7. Dylan Jaques (HS Senior Liaison)		8. Hazel-Anne Johnson-Marcus (Chair & BOE Liaison)	✓	9. Abdullah Khan (Member)
	10. Amanda Lin (Member)	✓	11. Joanne Cruz (Member)		12. Andrea Orlando (Member)
	13. Edward Porowski (School District Liaison)		14. Emma Staal (HS Junior Liaison)	✓	15. Nadia Tariq (Co-Chair)
	16. Bobbie Theivakumaran (MDA Liaison)		17. Edmund Zelle (MEAICA Liaison)		

Welcome to any members of the public/public comment Nadia Tariq

Review & Approval of September minutes: Laura Hermans

- September Attendance: Joel, Khalila, Rebecca, Laura, Hazel-Anne, Joanne, Andrea, Nadia, Bobbie, Audra
- October Attendance: Shannan, Laura, Jackie, Dylan, Hazel-Anne, Amanda, Joanne, Ed P., Emma, Ed Z.
- No Quorum for September and October minutes, approval postponed to December's meeting.

Old Business:

- Thank you Hispanic Heritage Month Subcommittee.
- Subcommittee members will make a document with ideas and notes of improvement for next year's event. Planning for Hispanic Heritage Month 2023 should begin in April 2023.

New Business:

- National Caregiver Month - Possible partnership with Metuchen YMCA. Display a question about caregiving on the wall of the YMCA. Children can draw pictures and youth can write a response. Melinda DiBenedetto looking into this.
- Winter Festival Parade Volunteers - Sunday, November 27 - Will send an email for volunteers
- Human Rights Day Subcommittee - Saturday, Dec. 10 - Subcommittee meeting this Tuesday, December 8.
- Windows of Understanding 2023
 - Targeting late March / Early April
 - Metuchen Police Department - Violence Prevention
 - Women Aware - Program has greatly expanded this year and First Presbyterian Food Bank provides food for Women Aware clients who are in temporary shelters
 - Shannan will be subcommittee lead

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- Potential Partnership: Common Agency
 - Committee will reach out to Common Agency for more details about partnership
- Melinda DiBenedetto:
 - Metuchen YMCA will have a table at the farmers market on November 12th and 19th.
 - YMCA would like to display artwork for different heritage months at the Metuchen Facility.
 - Melinda will look into a possible liaison from the Senior Center.

Liaison Reports

- *None this week*

Next Month's Agenda & Other New Business

- Upcoming events: Lunar New year, Black History Month, Windows of Understanding, Women's History Month

Subcommittees for Upcoming Events:

- Human Rights Day: Nadia, Rebecca, Laura & Jacqueline
- Caregivers Month: Andrea
- Winter Parade: Nadia, Rebecca & Andrea, Abdullah

2022 Meeting Dates:

Dec. 6 | Jan. 10 | Feb. 7 | March 7 |

Adjourned: 8:04pm