

Metuchen Human Relations Commission

Tuesday, May 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Metuchen Borough Hall

Start Time: 7:31pm

✓	1. Suneet Bhatt (Member)	✓	2. Joel Branch (Council Liaison)	✓	3. Joanne Cruz (Member)
✓	4. Khalila Cruz (Member)		5. Wayne Karalevich (MPD Liaison)	✓	6. Laura Hermans (Secretary)
	7. Jacqueline Ho (Member)	✓	8. Dylan Jaques (HS Senior Liaison)	✓	9. Hazel-Anne Johnson-Marcus (Chair & BOE Liaison)
✓	10. Amanda Lin (Member)		11. Tara Matise (Member)		12. Andrea Orlando (Member)
✓	13. Edward Porowski (School District Liaison)	✓	14. Emma Staal (HS Junior Liaison)	✓	15. Nadia Tariq (Vice Chair)
	16. Bobbie Theivakumaran (MDA Liaison)	✓	17. Bhavi Vyas (Member)		18. Edmund Zelle (MEAICA Liaison)

Welcome to members of the public/public comment: Hazel-Anne Johnson-Marcus

- Michael Geschlecht
- Colleen Libertz

Review & Approval of March and April 2023 minutes: Laura Hermans

- March 2023 Minutes
 - Approved
- April 2023 Minutes
 - Approved

Old Business:

- Mindfulness/Wellness on the Plaza Event (Potential date September 2023)
 - May need to postpone to 2024 due to scheduling issues.
 - Speaker and or interactive event, possibly yoga.
 - Consider GSAPP - Rutgers Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology for resources
 - Stop The Stigma
 - Local CBT centers, highlight therapists of color
 - Green Thumb Society
- Bhavi began reaching out about a rainbow crosswalk in Metuchen
 - Leigh Hanbridge used to be involved with JuneBug.
 - “Sticker” Quotes along the sidewalk in front of New Market

New Business:

- Metuchen Neighborhood Network (Common Agency)

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- School counseling department has internships posted on the website, this could be a potential way to recruit youth members.
- Next Month's Agenda & Other New Business
 - Like and share our posts to amplify our messages
 - Wellness event details Sept 12th - potential date

Upcoming Activities:

- AAPI and Jewish American Heritage Month (May)
- UN World Day (May 21) - social media posts
- Pride Month (June) - Downtown Pride event (June 3)
- Juneteenth (June 16) - Discussion Panel at Suite Metuchen called "Hip-Hop at 50". Keith Jones from New Brunswick, a celebrity Stylist and Kyle Schikner, director of "white man walks into a barber shop". Possible Hip-Hop karaoke.
- Juneteenth (June 17) - Steel drum band, spoken word, step dancers.

Liaison Reports:

- *Ed Porowski (School District Liaison):*
 - AP exams and NJSLA
- *Hazel-Anne Johnson-Marcus (BOE Liaison):*
 - The District is interviewing construction management firms. The BOE is engaged in negotiations with the teachers' union for a new contract agreement, hopefully by the end of the school year. The BOE and the MEA have a good labor-management relationship.

2023 Meeting Dates:

June 6 | July 11 | September 5 | October 3 | November 7 | December 5

Adjourned: 8:40pm