



**West Norriton Township Human Relations Commission**  
Meeting Minutes  
June 23, 2022

The West Norriton Township Human Relations Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on 6/23/22 by Walt Smith.

Present: Shelly Wilson, Avery Manning Walt Smith, Anne Pavone, Harma Ellens

Apologies: Joan Wurzel, Dwayne Mosier, Karen Hayman

**Minutes:** May meeting minutes accepted

**Old Business:**

- a) **More training:** Contacts from Abbington HRC and at Justice Department have been obtained from Don Benn. No further action. Follow up in July
- b) **MEI scorecard:** Waiting for input from Jason Bobst
- c) **June 2 Pride Flag raising event:** Flag Raising well attended, with in person comments from Amanda Cappelletti, Joe Webster and Anne Pavone). Pictures of event posted on FaceBook page. Anne will contact Jason Bobst to have Pride Flag taken down at the end of the month. Consider for next year to have this event right before a Township Commissioner's meeting
- d) **June 4 coffee closet event by East Norriton HRC:** We joined the East Norriton HRC at Jake the Barista's coffee shop (at Vinyl Records). Turnout of the public was low, but we got introduced to Jake's parents and made some good contacts.
- e) **July 26 event honoring passage of ADA (East Norriton HRC):** East Norriton HRC invited Joan's daughter Katje to give a presentation on service animals at the event in the East Norriton Township building – 2501 Stanbridge Street -- at 6:30 pm. Anne, Walt and Harma are interested in attending, provided number of attendees does not exceed level comfortable for presenter and her dogs.
- f) **Work on diversity, inclusion, respect, and empathy class for elementary school:** Post meeting note: Harma talked with Don Benn and will put together an outline of the class for our next meeting

**New Business:**

- a) **Complaints received:** none

- b) **An ordinance to outlaw conversion therapy:** West Norriton Township Commissioners decided to create a new local ordinance to outlaw conversion therapy
- c) **ADA celebration:** Joan proposed we organize a job fair for Pathway School students with local businesses interested in hiring people with disabilities. Proposal was received positively. We will need a list of local businesses who have a practice of hiring people with disabilities and further discussion on organization of this event
- d) **Events to go with Celebrations:** Calendar of celebrations of protected group-related months of the year was generated and attached to the meeting minutes of May 26, 2022 (Joan). Joan requested we all think about potential events to go with specific celebrations.

**Public Comments:** none received

### **Ongoing Action items**

Look into availability of mediation training (Joan)

Review PHRC (Joan)

Review of ADA and Fair Housing Act (unassigned)

Follow up with Jason Bobst to progress MEI index work (Anne, Harma)

Website page redo (Joan)

Generate a list of all festivals and special celebrations we want to attend during the year, such as the West Norriton Fall festival (unassigned)

The possibility of a local movie series around HRC relevant topics was discussed (Walt and another volunteer)

Put together outline for diversity class for elementary school (Harma)

Create list of potential events to go with specific celebrations of protected group-related months of the year (all)

Request from Shelly: what type of content do we want on our Facebook page?

Create Instagram account (Shelly)

### **Completed Actions**

Prepare list of questions to be answered to get Township MEI score on Human Rights Campaign website (Harma Ellens)

Calendar of celebrations of protected group-related months of the year was generated and attached to the meeting minutes of May 26, 2022 (Joan)

Facebook page was redone, please look at page and 'like' and 'follow' (Joan)

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** July 28, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

**Minutes submitted by:** Harma Ellens