



West Norriton Township Human Relations Commission
Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2022

The West Norriton Township Human Relations Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on 7/28/22 by Joan Wurzel.

Present: Joan Wurzel, Walt Smith, Anne Pavone, Karen Hayman, Harma Ellens
Apologies: Dwayne Mosier, Shelly Wilson, Avery Manning

Minutes: June meeting minutes accepted

Announcements: No meeting in August

Old Business

- a) **More training:** Three HRC members attended ADA training on service dogs presented by Katje Wurzel on July 26, 2022, at the East Norriton HRC meeting. Abington HRC will be contacted by Joan before Sept HRC meeting re further training
- b) **MEI scorecard:** Input obtained from Jason Bobst allowed determining a preliminary MEI score for West Norriton Township and also highlighted areas for improvement. These will be collated by Harma for future presentation to the Board of Commissioners. Harma will also look into the mechanism of getting the MEI score on the Human Rights Campaign website
- c) **Website pager redo:** Postponed until late 4th quarter 2022.
- d) **Antidiscrimination class:** Details of class presented at Paul Fly Elementary school by East Norriton HRC were obtained from Don Benn. Joan will contact the school board to determine interest of Marshall Street Elementary school in a similar presentation. This presentation will likely take place in 2023. Preparation will involve creation of a lesson plan and practice by the HRC.

- e) **LCD board for ADA month.** Posted for the month of July. August is Black Business Month. Joan will contact Jason Bobst for a list of Black owned businesses in West Norriton Township. Joan will post resulting information on Facebook.
- f) **Facebook page information:** Montgomery County association of HRC's is a FaceBook page started by Rick Buttacavoli, a gay activist, who wants to see how the county is doing with non-discrimination ordinances. Anne invited WN HRC members to this Facebook page
- g) **Ordinance to outlaw conversion therapy:** Anne to contact lawyer to determine best approach for this, for example new ordinance or inclusion in existing one

New Business:

- a) **Complaints received:** none
- b) **Movie festival parameters:** Start planning in October
- c) **Job Fair for people with special needs:** Joan is working with jakesbaristas.com who are organizing a job fair in the fall for special needs individuals.
- d) **Sign up for table at West Norriton Fall Festival Oct 15:** Joan will sign us up. We need a theme or a game to attract people to our table

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)

Create list of gaps in MEI index for Board of Commissioners (Harma)

Figure out details of submitting MEI score (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 (unassigned)

Contact school board to determine interest in anti-discrimination class (Joan)

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)

Create theme or game for HRC table at the WN Fall Festival (all)

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)

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

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

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

Next Meeting: September 22, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Harma Ellens