

Meeting Place: John Zon Community Center, Pleasant Street, Greenfield MA

Meeting Called To Order: 6:00

Role Call: Loreen Flockerzie, Maureen Lyons, Gregory Cochran, Tracey Burley, Daniel Yalowitz, Wid Perry. All Present

Audience Member: Christopher Lapan

The Commission welcomed newly assigned Commissioner Daniel Yalowitz who missed our October reorganizational meeting.

December 10th is United Nations Human Rights Day. We would like to award recognition to a community member who made a positive contribution to local Human Rights at our December 9th meeting. The name of the awardee(s) would be added to the plaque that is located on the second floor of the Town Hall. Marty McGuane was the first awardee.

We would conduct our meeting as an Open Forum and Celebration with food to help promote our mission.

Are there budget constraints? Is there money for the plaque inscription and food? Does the person being recognized need to be present to receive the award? (No, a representative could stand in).

We need to do this right. 'Inform instead of reform'. Promote the Commission – discuss how to submit grievances, educate the public (including articles to The Recorder).

We could use the GCC Printer for brochures, etc.

Who's in charge of the web site? (Contact Mayor's Office)

Individuals to consider: Former State Senator Stan Rosenberg who got the concept of Human Rights Commissions off the ground at the state level and did a lot for Human Rights advocacy locally.

Motion: Organize a Human Rights Event and Forum to be held December 9, 2019 to include the presentation of a plaque and information. Seconded and approved.

How to Contact the Human Rights Commission:

- Come to a scheduled meeting
- Contact The Mayor's Office
- Talk to a Human Rights Commissioner

After the election, we will talk with the new Mayor-elect for their vision of the HRC moving forward.

Potential nominees for Award Recognition:

- Stan Rosenberg
- Penny Ricketts
- Christian Leavitt
- Mary McClintock
- Eveline McDougall
- Mayor Bill Martin
- Rabbi Andrea Cowen-Kinmeyer
- Captains Scott and Karen Peabody (Salvation Army)
- Lew Mextas

- M.J. Adams

Should the award be 'Greenfield honoring Greenfield' or more expanded? How and when does Greenfield get to celebrate itself? Should the award be "from" Greenfield or "For" Greenfield?

We need to establish criteria for the Award:

- Work (impact/change) is local to Greenfield
- Embodying the spirit of the Human Rights Commission Mission Statement in their work.

We should also incorporate the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the spirit of our criteria as well.

Motion: Accept the criteria described above as the criteria for the Human Rights Commission Award. Seconded and passed All in Favor.

Final Nominee Discussion:

- Mayor Bill Martin for his life-long service to the community both during his tenure in public service and prior to his service on the Town Council and as Mayor.
- Rabbi Andrea Cowen-Kinmeyer as President of the Interfaith Council and Rabbi of the local Temple. She has been a staunch worker in the area of racism, anti-Semitism, sustainability, food justice, social justice, immigration and inclusion.
- Captains Scott and Karen Peabody of the Salvation Army – their general mission work and specifically for their work during the Town Common Housing crisis of 2018.

Is the nomination limited to just one person? Do we want to vote on a full slate of nominees? Do we want a rank vote?

Motion to Nominate Stan Rosenberg as the awardee was not seconded.

Motion to Nominate and award Mayor Bill Martin, Rabbi Andrea Cowen-Kinmeyer, and Captains Scott and Karen Peabody as Awardee was made and seconded. Motion Passed, Four for, two against.

Action Items for December 9th Meeting:

- Write Ups to be read at Ceremony
- Inscriptions for Plaque
- Flyers announcing Ceremony
- Tracy will write the draft for the Captains. Doug will write the draft for the Rabbi. Loreen will write the draft for The Mayor.
- We need to send letters to the awardees informing them of their award and inviting them to the ceremony.
- We need to book the Zon Center for December 9th.

New Business:

- Loreen and Mo plan on attending the 'Being the Arc' Conference in Boston on October 25th. Loreen will check on mileage reimbursement.

- Dan will make copies of the handout he received at the Sex Trafficking conference to provide to the HRC.
- Greg would like an update on the status of the Police Department body cameras and cruiser cameras, understanding that there are pending union issues on the subjects. Loreen will formalize Greg's draft letter and send it to the Mayor and Police Chief.
- Goal for future meetings: Solutions and goals instead of stagnant discussion. Focus on one action item per month for success. Think about questions for new Mayor and their vision of the HRC under their tenure.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 19th, 2019, Zon Center. We will work on the December 9th Award Ceremony status.

Motion to Adjourn at 7:45, made and seconded, all in favor