

\*\*\*\*\* Minutes are considered DRAFT until approved at the next meeting \*\*\*\*\*

### **Minutes**

Town of Farmington, CT  
Human Relations Commission  
Online Web Conference  
November 1, 2021  
6:30 pm

#### **Commission Attendees**

Jay Tulin  
Donna Mambrino  
Zalman Nakhimovsky  
Anne Newbury  
Jun Lu  
Andrew Arboe

#### **Town of Farmington**

Nancy Parent (Community & Rec Services)  
Zach Martin (Farmington Police Department)

#### **Guests**

Jerry Pagano  
John Demeo

#### **Absent:**

Lisa Pawlick

#### **A. Call to Order**

Tulin called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

- a. A motion was made and seconded (Newbury, Mambrino) to amend the agenda and move item C in Old Business to the beginning of the meeting. Unanimously approved.
- b. Tulin reported on the AAPD candidate questions vetted through CC=A.
- c. A motion was made and seconded (Mambrino, Newbury) that the HRC goals are accepted as set forth in Agenda 7C, specifically 1, 2 3, & 4, not including the sub-sections ABCD in 1, ABC, in 2, and A in 4. Unanimously approved.

#### **B. Presentation: Shannon Rutherford, Town Planner on Affordable Housing Plan**

Tulin introduced Shannon Rutherford and presented on the Affordable Housing Plan.

#### **C. Public comment**

None.

#### **D. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded (Nakhimovsky, Mambrino) to approve the minutes from the August 23, 2021 meeting as presented. Unanimously approved.

#### **E. Reports**

##### 1) Chair Report

- a. Walk Against Hate – would like to do something in a more organized fashion in the future years.
- b. Advocacy – the building committee hired the Institute of Universal Design on the building of the new high school. Their purpose is to consult throughout the project to ensure the concept of universal design is adhered to.

- c. The Village Center – no response to RFP that was put out over the summer. The Town will reissue an RFP in hope the project will start in the spring of 2022.
  - d. Infrastructure Bill – on hold. Another bill having to do with pedestrian rights of way, accessibility guidelines – Tulin reached out to Senator Blumenthal and Congresswoman Hayes regarding the bill.
  - e. Parent & Tulin attended a statewide forum of Human Rights commissions that included 8 CT towns with commissions. There is a private Facebook group with people from the forum sharing their missions.
  - f. October 12 Town Council Meetings – Myra Clark Segul was introduced by Tulin. Town Council was very receptive to the presentation.
  - g. Upcoming November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting – should members of the citizens coalition for equal access be invited to speak or present?
- 2) Department Of Social Services
    - a. Parent was appointed by Kathy Blonski as the new ADA coordinator for the Town.
    - b. Statewide group summary
    - c. 3 Upcoming events – Veteran’s Thank you Luncheon, Senior Holiday Gathering, and starting Holiday Giving Program.
    - d. Annual Report – Miles driven 41,960 with new van, which is a 44% increase.
- 3) Town Council Liaison
    - a. None.
- 4) Police Department
    - a. Discussed with Nancy to do a PSA involving crosswalk and pedestrian safety, specifically on the handicapped accessibility. Ideally this will take place in the Spring 2022.
- 5) Racial Equality Task Force
    - a. Will meet with ReCenter this coming Thursday.
    - b. Cory Vincent organized an Implicit Bias training in the past. Would like to have them come as a speaker for HRC.
    - c. Website will be release by the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month.
    - d. Finished strategic plan. In December, racism will be declared as a public health crisis
    - e. Drat for RFP inclusion specialists was written. Will partner with other towns and Task Force will work as the consultant to hire someone to help with interviews.

## **F. New Business**

- 1) Parent reviewed the preliminary grading scale for the Town Engagement Rating System.
  - a. Tulin spoke about the value of finding the statewide Facebook page which will assist in ideas for Farmington HRC
  - b. Tulin suggested a subcommittee for reviewing the grading scale system and then present to the full commission.

## **G. Old Business**

- 1) Tulin reported on National Disabled Voters Registration week. An event was held at New Horizons and a video summarizing the event was posted on social media.

- 2) Tulin reported on AAPD candidate questions. United Farmington Facebook page posted the questions on Social Media, but the disability question was not one of them. The questions were also sent to Lance Goldberg.
- 3) Tulin reported on Human Rights Day (December 10). Parent said she will create a presentation before the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November.

#### **H. Adjournment**

A motion was made and seconded (Lu, Arboe) to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm.  
Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Parent, Secretary

DRAFT