

**TOWN OF WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING - MAY 10th, 2023**

LUDLOW ROOM, 6:30 PM, IN PERSON

1. CALL TO ORDER: VICE CHAIR/COMMISSIONER COPELAND-SMITH

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE-SECRETARY/COMMISSIONER MADISON

In attendance were: Castella Copeland-Smith. James Madison. Aleks Gould. Charles Copeland. Joyce Armstrong. Lisette LaTorre. Patrice Holiday. Pat Mack. Patrick McMahon. Jody Denno as a pending member. All attendees were present in the room. Zoom was not used.

3. WELCOME NEW COMMISSIONER

Patrice Holiday is the newest member. Introductions were done.

4. SELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Copeland nominated Commissioner Madison for **Secretary**. Commissioner Armstrong seconded. Vote was 6-0-0.

Commissioner Copeland nominated Commissioner LaTorre for **Vice-chair**. Commissioner Madison seconded. Vote was 6-0-0.

Commissioner LaTorre nominated Commissioner Copeland-Smith for **Chair**. Commissioner Copeland seconded. Vote was 6-0-0.

Commissioner Mack arrived after the voting on the officers, making the vote total six.

5. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

No one from the public was present.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APRIL 2023

Commissioner LaTorre asked that in the future we track who is in person and who is remote when we have remote participants.

Minutes were accepted unanimously.

7. LIASION REPORT - PATRICK MCMAHON

7.1. Financial Report

Budget to date was \$3,280. Expended was \$2,558. Funds remaining are \$722. Details are in the budget provided by Liaison McMahon.

8. SHAD DERBY PREPARATION - BRIDGE BUILDER SERVICE PROJECT

We will have a table/tent and will be collecting new socks, pet food, and t-shirts. All commissioners are asked to sign up for either one hour or two. The event is 10 am to 4 pm. Chair Copeland-Smith will send out a signup sheet. The need for help starts at 8:30 for full setup.

On somewhat of a side topic in preparation for funding of Juneteenth, we likely can get funding from First Church. A significant increase over prior years was discussed, along with the importance of demonstrating good use of all such funds. The total amount of funds is yet to be determined, and will be added to the budget accordingly. Funds will be spent wisely in alignment with the commission's vision and mission.

9. MEN'S HEALTH - COMMISSIONER MADISON

Commissioner Madison indicated that everything is on track. The publicity slide will be sent around in the next week or so for feedback.

10. JUNETEENTH - COMMISSIONER COPELAND-SMITH

10.1. BLACK HISTORY JEOPARDY 6/16

Commissioner Copeland has the questions under control. We will be asking Kevin Booker to be the co-host. Signing up for teams is on the web site. Each team must have four members. We will have four teams.

Commissioner Holiday recommended that we have flyers for upcoming events at the Shad Derby table.

Commissioner Mack recommended that we have a signup sheet at the table for other upcoming events.

10.2. PERFORMING ARTS & POETRY SLAM 6/17

Judge Washington left a list of some of his favorite poems. Anyone wishing to read them should volunteer per the email threads.

The question of whether we should pay an honorarium was discussed. Collective discussion was to not pay any honorariums.

10.3. PASTOR SWAP 6/18

Anyone wishing to attend, please do.

10.4. TOWN GREEN EVENT 6/19

We will not be doing pre-registration meals as originally planned. This was deemed too much overhead relative to value. We believe we will need two food trucks.

We will only be having civic groups at a tables. No for-profit vendors. This is more in the spirit of the event itself. But it also avoids the problem of having to have vendors vetted by the police department.

Commissioner Holiday will contact the local resident who has bounce houses to see if we can use it.

11. SCHOLARSHIP - COMMISSIONER LATORRE

The QR code will be put online for further donations. The town takes care of tracking the balance.

We had 86 candidates, but a large majority aren't even qualified, for such reasons as zero volunteer hours. The process needs to be complete by May 19th. Anyone wishing to be part of the final selection process should contact Commissioner LaTorre.

12. FY2023-2024 CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Commissioner Madison will continue to work on the perpetual calendar.

13. MARKETING STRATEGIES

The value of push notifications was discussed. We do have the ability to push notification, but it's buried on the town web site. This led to the idea of having a marketing brochure.

Commissioner Madison had volunteered to make such a brochure some months back, but consensus was that sending the raw idea to Sandra to do the core work is the better approach. The commission agreed that a post-card sized handout is best.

Commissioner Madison will work with Sandra to get the post-card sized handout drafted and reviewed with the commission.

14. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners had no additional items.

15. ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Commissioner Mack moved to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Madison, Secretary