

Minutes To:
WINDSOR HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, October 11, 2023
Windsor Town Hall, Ludlow Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chair Copeland-Smith.

1. **Welcome**—Chair Castella welcomed everyone and said, “I hope everyone is having a happy fall.”
2. **Attendance:**
 1. Commissioner 1-Chair Castella Copeland-Smith Present
 2. Commissioner 2- Vice Chair Lisette LaTore-Muszynski Present via Zoom
 3. Commissioner 3- Interim Secretary Charles Copeland Present
 4. Commissioner 4- Parliamentarian- Vacant

 5. Commissioner 5- Monika Nugent Present
 6. Commissioner 6- Vacant
 7. Commissioner 7- Vacant
 8. Commissioner 8- Vacant
 9. Commissioner 9- Vacant

 10. Student Representative 1 Aleks Gould Present

 11. Commissioner Alternate 1—Jody Denno Present
 12. Commissioner Alternate 2-Vacant
 13. Commissioner Alternate 3- Vacant
 14. Commissioner Alternate 4- Vacant

 15. Town Liaison- Patrick McMahon Present
3. **Public Communication**-no updates per Patrick McMahon
4. **Approval of Minutes:** September 13, 2023
Monika moved to approve the minutes
Charlie second—Vote passed 5-0
5. **Liaison Report-**

Patrick-no new Deposits or Expenditures and will be another \$100 coming soon from Lisette.

Patrick suggested we get names and addresses of cash donations in the future so we can thank them. He will reach out to First Church and see if there is anyone else for Judge Washington’s Scholarship donations to thank. If no name, will be listed under Anonymous. Cassie will look at donation list from Juneteenth 2023.

Patrick-voting at next Town Council meeting for two new HRC members recommended to join us, Marie Bendzans and Judy-Ann Cooke, to get the nod and join us at November meeting.

6. Document Review

New: Cassie-**Fundraising Ideas** document on Google Drive, please take a look and add your ideas and is there anybody who wants to take the lead in the future.

Old: Windsor HRC Annual Report 2023-2024

Cassie-we are in transition with Juneteenth, Bridge Builders Award, Phenomenal Women Award planning timelines and outlines and we are welcome to add anything to them.

Cassie-nominations form for Bridge Builders is out and we have a couple of nominations. Online form working well.

Cassie-Phenomenal Women's form criteria not as clear cut as Bridge Builders, is a working document modeled off of Bridge Builders and based on criteria she and Judge Washington were working on.

7. Secretarial Role

Jody-nominated as Secretary, Charlie moves and Cassie seconds Vote 5-0

8. Parliamentarian Role

Monika was nominated as Parliamentarian, Charlie moves and Jody seconds Vote 5-0

9. One Book One Windsor (OBOW)

Tie between: Essential Labor Mothering & Social Change by Angela Garbes and

Beyond Ally: The Pursuit of Racial Justice by Dr. Maysa Akbar

Voted Winner: **Essential Labor Mothering & Social Change by Angela Garbes** Monika moves and Charlie seconds-Vote 5-0

Charlie suggested paring down book list for next year and Cassie agreed.

Windsor Public Library wants to partner with us in voting next year Sept/Oct and Cassie will circle back. They also would like to have copies for town to borrow and suggested having a volunteer read the book and add to the conversation as a book "expert"/"influencer."

Patrick—all commissioners to get one copy courtesy of town. Thank you, TOW.

10. WHRC Meeting Time

Lisette suggested we move meeting time to 6 -8 PM. Will keep 6:30 -8:30 PM for now in hopes Parliamentarian role can help keep meeting on track for getting out on time. It was suggested having sub-committees to come with information to meetings, will help cut down on discussion time during meetings. Patrick said will need to adapt calendar in November and will need to set date and time of meetings for next calendar year then.

11. Action Items: Updates from Commissioners

Cassie reviewed calendar of events. Cassie will reach out to Juneteenth performers now as they are getting booked out for 2024 town celebrations.

One Book One Windsor Conversation Women's Herstory Month Discussion:

Sunday 3/3/2024 1-3 PM

Phenomenal Women's Event:

Friday 3/8/2024 6-8 PM which is **International Women's Day**.

Discussed having it at Ellsworth Homestead, Monika will investigate details/cost. Patrick will hold chambers for that date and time.

Cassie promoted and shared First Church in Windsor The Longest Table and Freedom Trail Events on social media to help support each other. All events will turn to **Green** in Events Calendar when completed.

Next Event: **Hispanic Heritage Night at Academy of Aerospace and Engineering School Friday 10/13/2023 5:30-8 PM**. We are providing 5 cases of 24 waters with HRC stickers that Patrick will generate and place on water bottles he will pick up at Geissler's. We will have a table there and Patrick will make up 8 x 11 HRC flyer with QR Code bringing people to our website.

Second Event: **LGBTQIA and History Month at Loomis Chaffee School Thursday 10/26/2026 7:30-9 PM**. Invited to collaborate with Lilian Hutchinson as panelists for discussion to promote, attend and share after watching **Every Body** film with students.

Halloween—hand out candy at Windsor Public Library. Whoever can donate candy/drop off ahead of time and/or attend starts at 5:30 PM.

November- Bridge Builder's Recognition. Cassie will email us nominees by 10/21. **Sunday 11/12/2023 2-4 PM at Northwest Park**. Whoever can meet will set up **Saturday 1 PM**. Lisette will make itemized list of what we have available for decorations. Monika suggested Trader Joe's for flowers. Cassie thanked Lisette and Jody for coordinating this event.

Discussed fall conversation series and decided not to do one at this time with other events on schedule.

Aleks: t-shirts will cost \$15-\$17 est. Need Logo. Decided to make name tags first for Bridge Builders Recognition Ceremony and have shirts ready for OBOW conversation. Name tags will be Gold with Black Lettering magnets. Shirts—will discuss color and type.

Charlie: reviewed budget and will prepare in November for December submission to town. Starting point based on last year's costs. Will review for next meeting. Scholarship fund: gave out \$300, ended with \$1,142. Charlie asked we review budget on our own and send any questions throughout the month, communicate with each other via email. Patrick asked Charlie to eliminate DEI column as was a one-year item. Monika requested budget to be separate agenda item for meeting. Charlie can add questions and answers for the Budget.

Jody: do we want to have a theme for this year. Cassie, Lisette and Charlie to work on Mission Statement which has been started and bring back to next meeting. Will look at theme next meeting.

Monika: **Black Maternal Health Conversation Event Thursday April 4/11 6-8 PM** Hybrid Event. Secured Panelist Ayesha Clark to help moderate and would like to also get a perinatal RN from Hartford HealthCare. Windsor Public Library very interested in collaborating on a children's book, along with Junior Women's Club—they will handle Arts and Crafts piece. Date TBD.

Lisette: updates for Bridge Builders, has ideas that will share for scholarships, marketing and donations.

Cassie: will reach out to Juneteenth performers and requests suggestions from us by 10/20.
Promoted **Windsor Art Center We are Here Community Engagement Series** event.

Monika suggested Colleen the RapOet.

Next Meeting: **Wednesday 11/8/2023 at 6:30 PM.**

8:35 PM Charlie motioned to adjourn and Jody second the motion, meeting adjourned.