

WINDSOR HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 6:30-8:15 PM

1. **Welcome Remarks**—Chair Dr. Copeland-Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Dr. Copeland-Smith thanked us all for coming to our May meeting tonight.
2. **Commissioners in Attendance:**
 - Chair Copeland-Smith
 - Vice Chair LaTorre-Muszynski
 - Secretary Denno
 - Parliamentarian Nugent—Excused Absence
 - Commissioner Copeland
 - Commissioner Cooke
 - Commissioner Greenfield
 - Commissioner Tyson—Unexcused Absence
 - Student Commissioner Gould
 - Commissioner Bendzans—Excused Absence
 - Liason McMahan
 - Town Guest—Danielle Tapper from Windsor Public Library.
3. **Public Communications**—Liason McMahan said there are no new communications to report.
4. **Approval of April 2024 Meeting Minutes**—Commissioner Greene motioned to accept, Commissioner Cooke seconded, 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained. The April Meeting Minutes were approved and accepted.
5. **Liaison Report**—nothing has been spent since our last meeting except for \$66.13 by Commissioner Lisette LaTorre-Muszynski for Shad Derby giveaways. The Porta Potty is booked for our Juneteenth event and the Town Permit is in place. We will not be having vendors who sell goods or services as discussed in our April meeting. The Town Manager is reaching out to us regarding participation in Bloomfield's Juneteenth Parade, step off time 11 AM on Saturday, June 22. Anyone who is interested in participating, please let Chair Copeland-Smith know. Entry Deadline is June 14th and this Event is Rain or Shine.
6. **One Book One Windsor (OBOW) 2025**—Chair Copeland-Smith thanked us for submitting our choices. We came to the consensus that the OBOW 2025 book will be The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store. Danielle shares there is much interest for this book with the town book

clubs. Commissioner Cooke offered to lead this commission event and it has been scheduled for Sunday, January 12, 2025, location TBD. Chair Copeland-Smith will reach out to Sandra regarding a flyer for this event.

7. **Budget Review**—Commissioner Copeland reports there are no additional expenses this month, aside from the \$66.13 spent on Shad Derby give away and there are no other budget updates to report.
8. **Executive Committee Report**—Chair Copeland-Smith reports the August Retreat is still planned to refine the Commission mission and vision for next year, to discuss Juneteenth details and that we may have a possible designated marketing role. More to come.
9. **Scholarship Award**-- Vice Chair LaTorre-Muszynski has put together an Excel spreadsheet of 10 candidates for our review, please give her your top two (2) choices no later than Friday morning.
10. **Executive Roles and Responsibilities**—Chair Copeland-Smith asked us to review the roles and responsibilities of each commissioner as the voting will take place in June. Please let Chair Copeland-Smith know if you are interested in any of these roles.
11. **Update for Collaboration on Agism**--Chair Copeland-Smith reviewed options of participation that were presented to us and it was decided to possibly hold a future conversation series discussion on Ageism. Vice Chair LaTorre-Muszynski will investigate the Senior Center collaboration for this event and report back to the commission.
12. **Shad Derby**—Please check and fill in sign-up sheet for table coverage. We will ask Sandra to print flyers to hand out at this event and Liaison McMahon will give the WHRC banners to Vice Chair LaTorre-Muszynski for the table.
13. **Juneteenth Marketing**—Chair Copeland Smith reviewed last minute details that are being put in place with confirmation of our performers and our social media posts. Chair Copeland-Smith emailed all commissioners flyers for Juneteenth and informed Sandra that commissioners might call for printouts of the flyers. Secretary Denno and Commissioner Cooke will post flyers around town.
14. **Action Items Update from all Commissioners**--all Commissioners reported on their action items list for the upcoming Juneteenth event. Commissioner Cooke will inquire with the TOW regarding showing the movie Till at various places in town. Secretary Denno will complete Thank You notes for each performer. Vice Chair LaTorre-Muszynski said the food trucks are coming along well for our Juneteenth event and The Bean would like to contribute to this event with a possible pop-up shop and/or specialty drink. Vice Chair LaTorre-Muszynski and Secretary Denno will work on the display cases for Juneteenth. Liaison McMahon will check on a Snow Cones booth and said there is a community calendar on the Chamber of Commerce website. Liaison McMahon will give Chair Copeland Smith the contact information for the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Copeland shared that there is a Residential Engagement Grant through the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

we may be able to apply for in the amount of \$5,000-\$40,000. This grant is for underserved communities and for racial justice. The deadline is September 10. For more information, reach out to Chair Copeland-Smith. Commissioner Copeland would like to submit an application for this grant.

15. FY 2024-2025 Calendar of Activities—we will be reviewing this in more detail at our August retreat.

16. Adjournment/Next Meeting—Secretary Denno motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM, Commissioner Copeland seconded.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 and will be Hybrid.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Denno.