



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **Human Rights Commission Minutes 10/19/2005**

### **Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes – Final**

October 19, 2005

**In Attendance:** Sheri Baron, Marlissa Briggett, Christine Carney, Victoria Cohen, Christine Deshler, A. Nick Minton, Marlene Schultz, Bill Shea, Nancy Sweeney

**Absent:**

Anisha Desai, Mahendra Desai, Nancy Rhoads

**Minutes** for September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting approved with changes

**Minutes** for October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting approved with changes – Christine Deshler abstained for voting of these minutes

**Discussion of recent graffiti incidents** – Nancy Sweeney spoke again of recent talk she attended with Chip Berlet and his position on the subject - Bill Shea reported an incident at the new Dallin School but this was more vandalism than racist – seems to be a lots of mixed feelings on whether incidents should be printed or not – attention must be paid to it depending on the nature of graffiti – Commission looking forward to meeting at Town Hall with Mr. Berlet

**Format for November 3<sup>rd</sup> “Evening with Chip Berlet** - in Hearing Room of Town Hall – guests have been invited - speaker’s time limit of thirty minutes suggested – other guests will be invited to speak on subject – meeting will be open for Q & A – Chief Ryan has been requested to speak of APD policy – questions of where different department policies and procedures come from – who creates the policy for each department – (i.e.: School Department, Selectmen’s Office, etc.) – Sheri Baron will create agenda – concern was expressed that this talk not be construed as a lecture to attendees – purpose of this meeting is to have dialogue and if we are looking to change policy we must all be on the same page –

**Discussion of communication with the Commission** - e-mails will no longer be used as a means of communication - all business will be done by mailings or personal phone calls – any e-mails will be followed up by a phone call –

**Review of Anisha's Letter to Advocate** – copy sent by e-mail was reviewed and as Anisha unable to attend this meeting – discussion was tabled

**Phone Tree** – after much discussion of importance of communication – it was decided to have a Phone Tree set up in “ABC” order – when calls are made it is important to make sure to speak with someone – messages can be left on a machine but “Tree” calls must continue until an actual person is spoken with –

**Other Business** –

Still no contact regarding recent complaint

Nancy will contact principal at Ottoson Middle School regarding bullying

*Next meeting – November 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. at Jefferson Cutter House*

*Submitted by:  
Marylynn Carnell  
Staff Assistant*