

**Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes-Final
January 20, 2016**

Present: Christine Carney (Chair), Mel Goldsipe, Sharon Grossman, Gary Horowitz, Marliisa Briggett, Ghanda DiFiglia, Sheri Baron, Nick Minton

Absent: Jorge Loayza, Bill Logan, Yawa Degboe

Guest: Melanie Konstandakis-Schwartz

Citizens' Open Forum:

Melanie Konstandakis-Schwartz, AHS History teacher, came before the Commission and spoke about the upcoming Facing Racism retreat that will be held on April 9, 2016 for high school students. She showed the Commission a short video of the retreat from last year. The retreat is a one day conference with interactive workshops for student participation to explore and discuss gender, race, sexuality, and inclusiveness in society and within the high school. The groups of students will be representative of the student body, including student leaders, student council and sport team captains.

A motion was made by Commissioner Briggett and seconded by Commissioner Goldsipe to give \$500 towards the Facing Racism retreat. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Briggett and seconded by Commissioner Goldsipe to reimburse up to \$300 towards transportation cost for METCO students. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes:

Commissioner Briggett made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Commissioner Horowitz seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commission Opening: The Town Moderator and the Town Manager will extend the deadline to apply and will repost the openings. Commissioner Carney and Baron will have information about the opening available for Town Meeting members at the January 25 Town Meeting.

Correspondence: None received

Incidents & Complaints: None reported

LBGTQ Survey: Commissioner Goldsipe reported that the web version of the survey is now live. There have been 22 online responses to date. Commissioners Goldsipe and Carney will work on the distribution of the survey through various outlets. Commissioner Briggett made a motion to spend up to \$250.00 for the cost of the survey to be hosted on Survey Monkey, for printing and distributing hard copy versions of the survey. Commissioner Baron seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

True Story Theater Collaboration: Commissioner Goldsipe reported on an upcoming True Story Theater event to be held on January 28, 2016.

Bylaw-Town Meeting Warrant: Commissioner Baron moved to submit a Warrant Article to the 2016 Town Meeting to ask Town Meeting to allow the bylaws of the AHRC to be amended to include language that would allow the AHRC to have co-chairs at its discretion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Horowitz and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Horowitz made a motion to give authority to Commissioner Baron to write and submit the warrant article pertaining to the previous motion with the guidance of Town Counsel. Commissioner Goldsipe seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Facing History and Ourselves: Commissioner Grossman reported on her meeting with a FHO representative, at which a future community dialogue was discussed. Commissioners Grossman and Horowitz will work with the FHO representative to work out the details for a future event.

Sub-Committees: Schools: Commissioner Grossman reported that the joint AHRC and School Committee subcommittee will be preparing a summary of findings and will be presented to the School Committee upon approval of the joint subcommittee.

Election of Chair: Tabled

Annual Report:

Commissioner Brigggett wrote and submitted the Annual Report.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration:

Commissioner Brigggett made a motion for the AHRC to reimburse Commissioner Baron for the dessert purchased for the MLK Celebration on behalf of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Horowitz and passed unanimously.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:48PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Carney

