



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **Arlington Human Rights Agenda for 5/16/2013**

Arlington Human Rights Commission Meeting  
Thursday, May 16, 2013

Senior Center – Health and Human Services Room  
8:00 p.m.

Robin Varghese, Chair  
Agenda

- Citizen's Open Forum (15 minutes)
- Welcome to Sharon Grossman recently appointed to the Commission by the School Committee.
- Correspondance received: e-mail: Fundraiser event - "Ignite the Fire of Empathy: Playback Theatre," On Saturday evening, June 8th at the **Arlington Center** yoga studios.
- Town meeting – Did we present?
- Finances review – Update
  - Town Day fee for 2013? Miss Representation paid? Updated Financials - Colleen
  - Do we need to request to increase funding for AHRC for 2014/2015 year – Vote required
- February, March and April Minutes to review
- Incidents & Complaints: One phone call received from Medford resident regarding Medford business. Referred to Medford Diversity Director.  
  
Request from MBTA for Assistance determining if Arlington has any wheelchair accessible cabs. – Currently Arlington has no roll-on wheelchair accessible cab companies.
- Annual Report – discussion
  - Comments and review of our goals for the upcoming year
    - Continue to update the Commission's website.
    - Permanently establish the school liaison program.
    - Rename the Commission's Everyday Hero Award to the Bill Shea Everyday Hero Award, in honor of longtime Commissioner William Shea. The award will continue to honor an individual or group who has demonstrated an active commitment to fostering an understanding of and respect for our differences.
    - Sponsor a viewing of the film *Miss Representation* with a discussion period. *Miss Representation* focuses on media portrayals of women and its influence and effects on young people

- Sponsor dialogues on other issues of interest to Arlington residents. For example, the Commission may have a dialogue on issues surrounding international adoption.
  - Participate in Town Day.
  - Increase collaboration with relevant Town groups.
  - Increase outreach to other community groups.
  - Support the MLK Day event
- Ideas for different ways for the commission to remain active this year.
    - Facebook page for commission – interest, admin for the page?
    - Approval received for page from town IT department. Vote required.
- Status update –vacant Commissioner’s seats – two candidate interviewed on April 18<sup>th</sup> by Town Manager and Christine Connelly. Update.
- Update on plans to present the film “ Misrepresentation” and the associated discussion. Given the budget should we order this before the fiscal year end.
  - Update on Books for Bill. Let’s plan to make this purchase this fiscal year.
  - Chief Ryan has asked us if we can help with ideas on how to recruit more minority officers to the force with emphasis on how to reach the Asian community in Arlington. Ideas and comments.
  - Website update - Jorge’s is in the process of getting his appointment renewed. FAQ’s are still limited to just the one.
  - Additional ideas for content? Liason’s for each school as a listing?

Next meeting – Wednesday June 20<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm – NOTE: HHS conference room located in the senior center (27 Maple St )