

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Purpose: To promote human rights, personal dignity, and positive relations between all residents and visitors to the Town of Maynard.

Meeting Date: Monday March 2nd, 2020

Location: Room 202, 195 Main Street, Maynard, MA 01754

Members Present:

Kathleen FitzGerald (Co-Chair)

Michael Lisasa

Caroline Mahiti

Michael Noble

Eliot Prisby (Clerk)

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - A. Called to order by Ms. FitzGerald at 7:08pm.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. Approval of January 2020 minutes motioned by Ms. FitzGerald, seconded by Mr. Noble.
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
 - A. No public comments.
- IV. FOLLOW UP ABOUT AMENDMENTS TO MAYNARD POLICE IMMIGRATION POLICY
 - A. The Committee unanimously agreed to wait on finalizing the language of the policy until Mr. Noble had the opportunity to review suggestions by Laura Rótolo. The policy was discussed briefly. Mr. Noble said he did not want to enumerate specific exclusions in the policy, and would prefer a more general approach. The committee agreed that in regards to police reporting, reports should be made to the Human Relations Committee, as opposed to the Board of Selectmen. The Committee will update the policy to reflect this change. Mr. Lisasa asked for some clarifications on the policy, which other Committee members provided. Mr. Prisby voiced concern about finalizing the policy in a timely fashion, but Mr. Noble said that the police department's roll call training has been postponed, giving the Committee more time to finalize the policy. Ms. Mahiti wondered if civilians could attend the roll call training, Mr. Noble thought

it would be better for civilians to be present at the beginning of a department staff meeting. Mr. Lisasa wondered whether there could be pushback from residents - other Committee members did not think so, given the cooperative nature of the Committee.

V. HRC WEBSITE

A. Ms. FitzGerald will contact David Griffin about changes to the Committee website. The Committee decided to have names, pictures, and one line of text describing their goals for the Committee on the website, as well as a group photo, if possible. E-mail protocol and formatting was discussed. Committee members will send “one-liners” to Ms. FitzGerald by March 31st.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. The Committee discussed community outreach. Ms. FitzGerald suggested seeing if the public responds to a Committee e-mail address. Mr. Lisasa suggested an online survey. Ms. FitzGerald suggested an online form for public suggestions. Mr. Lisasa offered assistance with website design. The Committee briefly discussed outreach to the Nipmuck Nation.

VII. ADJOURN

A. Ms. FitzGerald motioned to adjourn, Mr. Prisby seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.