

FREEHOLD BOROUGH HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 2, 2018

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Attendees:

Carol Lida

Jane Fields

Gianna Dell'Omo

Christine Gregory

Annette Jordan

Festus Olayinka

Agenda Item 1. First Aid Magnets

On Friday, June 22nd Jane and Gianna met with Bill Madden and Jim McFadden at the First Aid office to present the initial donation of \$1,240 which was collected from distribution of the magnets. A formal receipt was presented and retained for our records. Committee members will convene at 6:00 p.m. on July 3rd at the fireworks display at the Freehold Racetrack to continue to collect donations for the magnets. Arrangements were made for gathering of materials and parking. The Committee is hopeful that it will receive authorization to collect donations at the St. Rose of Lima masses for the July 14/15th weekend for the magnets.

Jane informed the committee and acknowledged the passing of Barbara Conti, President of the EMS Auxiliary. She provided hours of funeral services and mass.

Agenda Item 2. 9-11 Memorial Service

Jane suggested 15- minute program for this year's Memorial Service, consisting of a opening statement/prayer, wreath laying, playing of TAPS, and possibly the American Legion Color Guard. Service will commence at 8:30 a.m.. Further details will be discussed at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 3. Senior Appreciation Day

At Carol's previous suggestion to honor a senior Borough resident at the event, the Committee decided it may be best to honor a committee or organization that provides services to our community seniors. Annette suggested preparing a letter to forward to Borough senior service providers to ask for their suggestion on a potential candidate. Carol will present the committee with pertinent criteria at the next meeting.

Gianna suggested that the Committee use the event as a platform to gain residents' interest in the concept of a police/community forum, which was introduced by Festus to the members in a prior meeting. Gianna encouraged Festus to collaborate with Sgt Santana to

present the concept to the public at the event, and then gather ideas and concerns from the attendees to serve as potential discussion topics for the forum. Annette suggested speaking with Reverend Terrence Porter, Rev. Reuben and Rev. Elsenon of the Unity Coalition, at its July meetings, for suggestions and information regarding forum organization and topics.

Arrangements for entertainment and promotions are also in progress. Dance contest rules and prizes to honor Fred Smith are also being considered.

Agenda Item 4. Adopt-a-Neighbor Program

The Committee is awaiting approval from Joe Bellina and Borough administration for the program. Gianna will follow up with the high school Extra Curricular Activities director regarding volunteer recruitment, which was forwarded in an email blast on June 1st to the students. Gianna prepared a press release and forwarded to The News Transcript to help promote the program and gather public interest for volunteer recruitment and participation. Program guidelines and application form will be posted on the Borough web site for public access. Target date for implementation of program is October 1st.

Agenda Item 5. Comments/Ideas

Jane inquired as to whether thank you notes were sent to all of the Beautification Contest participants. Gianna advised that she forwarded thank you notes to all of the contestants on behalf of the Committee. She also sent written thank you cards to the managers of The Home Depot and Brock Farm & Garden Center for the prizes. At his request, information was forwarded to Mark Sockol of the News Transcript regarding the contestants, their projects and the prizes, for a follow-up article. Gianna suggested that the Committee consider judging residential and commercial entries separately, and offering separate prizes in future contests.

Carol suggested that the Committee plan visitation of senior community residences in the Borough by our members during the December holiday season. Ideas included bringing gifts, and playing card and board games with the residents. Details to be discussed in future meetings.

Annette re-presented the Committee's past idea of "Movies in the Park" to the Recreation Committee to determine whether it would be interested in hosting next Summer. HR Committee members would offer their assistance.

Gianna presented a "Day at the Beach" for borough children whose families do not have means of transport to go to the shore. Concerned with the risk of Borough liability, Annette suggested a Water Park Day instead, to be facilitated by the Fire Department and held at the Park Avenue school. Committee agreed that the event would be best hosted by the Recreation Committee, and Annette would present the idea to its members to consider for next Summer.

Next Meeting Date: August 7, 2018