

FREEHOLD BOROUGH HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 2020
6:00 pm - 7:45 pm

Attendees:

Gianna Dell'Omo

Jane Fields

Carol Lida

Adam Reich

Sgt. Edward Santana

Pastor Joey Rozek

Claire Morales

Agenda Item 1 . Welccme Liaisons and Members

Members welcomed Adam Reich as Council Liaison, and Pastor Joey Rozek of Living Springs, as Clergy Liaison, to the Committee. Also present were Carrie Conger and Jenny Conger, new resident members to the Committee, whose applications for Mayor and Council approval will be submitted. Committee's Board of Ed liaison is forthcoming. New monthly meeting dates on the first Thursday of every month were presented and acknowledged. HRC member cards will be prepared and offered to all members.

Agenda Item 2. Revision of HRC pamphlet

Members were given a draft copy of proposed HRC pamphlet for review. Event photos are needed to complete the brochure. Adam suggested HRC have its own email address posted on the Borough site for public inquiries to be forwarded to committee chair, and included in the pamphlet's contact information. Translation of the brochure in Spanish will be also prepared and printed for distribution. List of current members will be provided to Traci DiBenedetto for posting on Borough site, and included in the revised brochure.

Agenda Item 3. Calendar Event Dates

The following dates for upcoming events were discussed and proposed as follows:

- Beautification Contest –Deadline June 1; Winners Announced June 15 Council meeting
- Community Walk 2020 – Saturday, June 13
- 9/11 Memorial Service – Friday, September 11
- Senior Appreciation Day – Sunday, September 20
- Holiday Candlelight Walking Tour – Sunday, December 13

Members considered partnering with Historic Preservation Committee and Downtown Partnership, as well as Unity Coalition of Greater Freehold for December's Holiday Tour, and will request their collaboration. Pastor Joey graciously offered to have the tour end at Living Springs to offer refreshments to attendees, and the Committee gladly accepted.

Agenda Item 4. Adopt-A-Neighbor program

The Committee continues to receive application requests from Borough residents for participation in the program. Volunteers are needed to accommodate the recipient requests. Gianna and Annette Jordan met with the VNA's Neighborhood Connections to Health Inter-generational Committee at its December meeting to discuss recruitment of volunteers and limitation of Borough liability with participation from outside organizations. Gianna and Annette will be meeting with Virginia Krzyzanowski, 4-H Program Associate, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County, on January 14th to discuss volunteer recruitment.

It was suggested that a minimum age requirement of 14 yrs be included in the Volunteer Eligibility Application. Committee will approach its Board of Ed liaison to assist with volunteer recruitment with the student body.

Agenda Item 5. Beautification Contest 2020

Preparation of promotional flyer, contest rules and applications to be completed by February's meeting. Contest prizes for residential applicants are still needed to complete promotional materials before distribution. Members are encouraged to request prize contributions from local businesses or organizations. Commercial applicant winners will be awarded with framed Certificates of Appreciation, signed by Mayor and Council. Non-prize residential winners will be acknowledged with framed Certificates of Appreciation.

Agenda Item 6. Ideas/Suggestions/Comments for 2020

Members were asked to present ideas and suggestions for HRC activities and engagements for the coming year.

Gianna presented the concept of *Getting to Know Your Neighbor/How to be a Good Neighbor* to create a general theme to HRC's 2020 activities. Ideas for public awareness to encourage neighbor relations were presented, including distribution of a friendly reminder. Claire's suggestion to create a public survey for community feedback to be posted on Borough's web site was mentioned to help promote this concept.

Carrie Conger shared her work affiliation with developmentally challenged individuals and offered suggestions to help the committee with creating events that will include members of their community.

The Committee acknowledged National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and Sergeant Santana shared his experience of the day with the members. HRC will make preparations to honor the date in 2021 with assistance from the Board of Ed and students to acknowledge the Borough's law enforcement officers.

As a follow up to Police/Community relations, members discussed the idea of a Summer car wash, inviting Borough youth and residents to wash police vehicles, and spend an afternoon with Borough's police officers.

"Movies in the Park" was also mentioned, and the possibility of partnering with the Recreation Commission to host a Friday night Summer gathering at Veteran's Park.

Antique and Classic Car show was also presented to help boost business revenue in town. Borough liability in relation to past Kruise Nights was discussed. Gianna suggested a Classic Car parade, in lieu of a Kruise Night, to help reduce liability. Adam suggested parade lead to display parking at the Race Track. Committee agreed to discuss idea with Jeff Friedman of Downtown Partnership.

Next Meeting Date: February 6, 2020