

FREEHOLD BOROUGH HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2020

6:00 pm - 7:20 pm

Attendees:

Gianna Dell'Omo

Jane Fields

Adam Reich

Christine Gregory

Claire Morales

Carrie Conger

Elisha Carter

Committee welcomed Board of Ed Liaison, Elisha Carter, at the meeting. Business Administrator, Stephen Gallo, was also in attendance.

Agenda Item 1. Beautification Contest 2020

Preparation of promotional flyer, contest rules and applications were submitted for posting on the Borough website. The Home Depot, Freehold Township, donated the first contest prize of a propane gas barbeque grill for residential applicants. 2nd prize is a \$100 gift certificate to Olive Garden, courtesy of Elite Taxi, and the 3rd prize, a \$50 gift certificate to Basile's Italian Restaurant, courtesy of the Freehold Borough PBA. The Downtown Partnership has offered to provide VIP seating to Downtown concerts for commercial applicant winners. Non-prize residential and commercial winners will be acknowledged with framed Certificates of Appreciation.

Agenda Item 2. HR Pamphlets

Draft copy of proposed HRC pamphlet in both English and Spanish were submitted to Paul-Mark Printing for proof preparation. Invoice for the brochures was presented to Stephen Gallo for approval. The Committee was given authorization to order 1,000 brochures, 500 each in English and Spanish, to distribute at community events. HRC's email address will be included in the contact information section of the pamphlet.

Agenda Item 3. "How to be a Good Neighbor"

Committee discussions regarding "How to be a Good Neighbor" focused on creating awareness amongst residents. To start, HR will reach out to community residents with a gentle reminder on "How to Build Community" with distribution of a replication of the Borough Hall's wall hanging

in a bookmark format. The bookmark would be included with the Borough Newsletter in an upcoming mailing. Pricing from original artist will be collected and presented to Borough Administrator for approval.

Resident Paige Frothingham attended the meeting to share her ideas with committee members on improving neighbor relations. She presented her suggestion to acknowledge "Earth Day/Week" in April, by distributing garbage bags to neighbors with literature attached related to importance of maintaining a clean environment.

Concept for a creation of a Neighborhood Watch in the form of a useful tip list was also mentioned in an effort to unite community efforts regarding safety. HRC plans to create a safety tip list to distribute to Borough residents.

Police/Community relations presented in a forum format was also discussed. Elisha Carter offered to reach out to school district's PTO management to obtain approval for Police/Community night at the next PTO meeting on April 20th.

Gianna suggested HR consider creating an HRC newsletter. The newsletter would include a directory of Borough committees, and contact information; feature events from local organizations, assisting with promotions and recruiting volunteers; created as a resource for residents to participate in organizational activities and events. HRC would collaborate with other committees in preparation and distribution.

Agenda Item 4. Cleanup Day, May 16th

Health safety issues were addressed as a major concern. As a result, and at Adam's suggestion, the committee decided to move the cleanup location to the center of town--- preferably the parade route, starting from Brinckerhoff down Main Street to Murray and back to Court House. This route would create more visibility for the cleanup incentive and help the downtown area prepare for the Memorial Day Parade.

As for the event name, the committee decided on "FREEHOLD is BEAUTIFUL". Preparation of an event flyer will be prepared for distribution in the hopes of recruiting volunteers. Elisha offered to contact the local Girl Scouts leader for participation. An attempt for donation of safety supplies was made, but unsuccessful due to the coronavirus scare. As a result, volunteers will be required to bring their own safety wear and supplies. VNA was asked to assist with preparation of safety instructions and education materials relating to litter and the environment for distribution. Freehold Borough PBA offered to donate t-shirts for event volunteers.

Agenda Item 5. COMMUNITY Walk

Venue for this year's event was confirmed with The Court Street School for Saturday, June 13th. Preparations to be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 6. Historic Holiday Walking Tour

Brianne Kozlowski, Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, advised that HPC will be providing historic background information on chosen tour sites. HPC offered two themes for the

tour: "Historic Holidays" relating to the Borough's holiday shops and traditions, and an "Architectural Tour", featuring prevailing architectural styles. Tour theme, route, clergy and resident participation to be discussed at a future joint meeting. Once participant commitment is confirmed, members will plan an itinerary, which will determine the need for transportation. Members will approach the Downtown Partnership for assistance with trolley rides and participation from owners of historic commercial buildings in the business district. HR members will assemble and create a tour guide for distribution.

Agenda Item 7. Ideas/Suggestions/Comments

Gianna was contacted by Angelica Garcia of the VNA/NCTH, and was advised that the VNA will offer a grant to assist with the Adopt-A-Neighbor program.

Members were asked to march in the St. Patrick's Day parade on March 15th.

Next Meeting Date: April 2, 2020