
Virtual | Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
4 So. Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT

MINUTES

In accordance with PA 21-2 §149 and social distancing guidelines recommended by the CDC to slow community spread of COVID-19, this meeting will be held virtually. A video recording of the meeting will be available on YouTube at "MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT STREAMING CHANNEL" (<https://mansfieldct.gov/video>) within seven (7) days after the meeting.

Public Comment will be accepted by email at FerraraMT@mansfieldct.org or by USPS mail at Town of Mansfield, Attention: Monica Ferrara, 4 South Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06268 and must be received prior to the meeting (public comment received after the meeting will be shared at the next meeting). Please email Ferraramt@mansfieldct.org or call 860.429.3304 by 4:00 PM on the day of the meeting to receive instructions for how to view, listen, or comment live.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mitoma called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Allopenna, Evans, Fried, Mitoma (exit noted below), Nocton, (arrival noted) Vaughan

Excused: Bruder, Lorenz

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 9, 2022

Minutes approved by consensus.

4. MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Fried reported that she sent the letter drafted by the HRC to the Mansfield Downtown Partnership surrounding the Holiday festivities. She has not heard back yet. She has discussed doing a book group on "Waking Up White" and that she has already talked with Leslie, the Mansfield Library Director, about doing this book group. Ms. Fried also reported that she is researching grants for the HRC.

Ms. Bell reported that she was able to attend the CT Pride Summit Group Meeting, which is a network of towns looking to connect and discuss future pride celebrations.

Ms. Evans reported that she was helping with some legislation and provided testimony (as herself) for the budget for non-profits in CT especially related to mental health services. She was recently on a call with the CT chapter of Association of Women's Health Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) of which she is the legislative coordinator. She will be attending AWHONN on the hill later this month. AWHONN's spring conference is coming up and will focus on helping health care providers understand and provide the best services to LBGTQIA+ individuals seeking healthcare.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. IHRA

Commission members briefly discussed the IHRA statement.

Ms. Fried moved, to table this until the next meeting and that Mr. Mitoma follow up with the Director of Judaic studies, Ms. Vaughan seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

B. Sustainable CT

Mr. Mitoma introduced the equity tool kit created by Sustainable CT. Participation in this toolkit will go towards the Town of Mansfield's sustainability certification. Members briefly discussed assisting in this capacity. Mr. Mitoma will connect with Thomas, the Sustainable CT intern, to further discuss this matter.

C. Budget Request

Mr. Mitoma reported that he submitted a budget request to the Town Manager, but has not heard back yet.

D. Juneteenth Celebration

Members briefly discussed ideas for a Juneteenth celebration. It was agreed by consensus to send this task to the Communications and Outreach Subcommittee for further review and discussion.

Ms. Nocton arrived at 7:52 pm.

Mr. Mitoma left the meeting at 7:53 pm.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Committee Appointment Process

Staff Member, Monica Ferrara, explained the appointment process to boards, commissions and committees.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

8. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. Town Charge

None.

B. Communications and Outreach

None.

9. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Reverend Hollis Cotton shared that he realizes that the Commission has a lot of responsibilities. He believes that there should be more detail and a more thorough understanding of what is expected of the Commission. It seems that there are multiple missions of the Commission. He believes that the HRC needs clarity of message to allow for greater community participation.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:05 pm, Ms. Evans moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Vaughan seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.