

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](mailto: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](mailto: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 7:01 pm.

### 2. ROLL CALL

Present: Allopenna, Farrow, Fried, Mitoma, Lorenz, Vaughan

Excused: Evans, Nocton

Others: Derek Cameron (student volunteer), Felicia Famularo (student volunteer), Margaret Chatey (staff), Monica Ferrara (staff)

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 11, 2022

March 16, 2022 - Communications and Outreach Subcommittee Meeting

Ms. Fried moved to accept the minutes from the May 11, 2022 Human Rights Commission Meeting and Ms. Vaughan seconded. Minutes passed with all in favor.

Ms. Vaughan moved to accept the minutes from the March 16, 2022 Communications and Outreach Subcommittee Meeting and Ms. Allopenna seconded. Minutes passed with all in favor.

### 4. MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Fried reported that Margaret Chatey and Ms. Fried created two Juneteenth posters and that she posting them in various locations around town. Margaret also posted them around town buildings. There are about six extra posters available in the Town Manager's Office if other members would like to post them.

Ms. Allopenna reported that the Pride Event went very well and that there was a huge turnout.

Ms. Chatey reported that the witness stone unveiling went well the other day. There were about 100 people in attendance and there are pictures posted to the Town's Facebook page.

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Juneteenth Proclamation**

Mr. Mitoma reported that the Juneteenth Proclamation was adopted by the Town Council and is posted.

### **B. Book Discussions Update by Ms. Fried**

Ms. Fried reported that we are on hold with this book discussion series. The new superintendent of schools, Peter Dart, would like to have public discussions on equity in public schools. Ms. Fried believes that the HRC should be collaborating with the schools for more ideas and topics.

Mr. Mitoma is going to follow up with the Town Manager's office to see if any money was budgeted for the HRC to assist with the creation of this series.

Mr. Mitoma suggested that an invitation be sent to Mr. Dart to attend a meeting to foster communication between the schools and the HRC. Mr. Mitoma will invite Mr. Dart to the July HRC meeting.

### **C. Suggestion Box Update**

Ms. Chatey provided an update on the Suggestion Boxes and stated that it was postponed due to Juneteenth. She is going to try to create a backdrop for the suggestion boxes. Ms. Vaughan volunteered to drop off the suggestion boxes to the Community Center and Library.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Charge Changes**

Mr. Mitoma and Ms. Fried will look at the charge and see if there are any changes that could be made to the charge. Their findings will be included in the next full Commission meeting.

### **B. Future Outreach Opportunities**

Ms. Vaughan stated that we should have a presence at the Celebrate Mansfield Festival (September 24, 2022).

Ms. Chatey brought up Indigenous People's Day to have the Commission start discussing what can be done to celebrate the day. She also reported that there is a Zoom book series that might be another opportunity for a

discussion on Indigenous People's Day. Ms. Fried stated that we should include Indigenous People in the celebration of Indigenous People's Day. Ms. Farrow stated that she is friends with a woman from the Pequot Tribe and that she would be a good resource.

**C. Celebrate Mansfield Festival**

Ms. Chatey reported that the photo exhibit for international refugee day has been tentatively booked to the library express at the Nash Zimmer Center that the town hopes will be a part of the Celebrate Mansfield Festival.

Ms. Fried believed that there should be a point person for the Celebrate Mansfield Festival. Ms. Vaughan volunteered to be the lead person. Ms. Allopenna, Ms. Farrow, and Ms. Lorenz volunteered to help with set up, break down, and to work the event.

**D. Bio Updates**

Ms. Chatey reported that the bios are not up to date with current membership and asked that new members send her a bio to add to the website.

**7. COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**8. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES**

**A. Town Charge**

None.

**B. Communications and Outreach**

None.

**9. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 7:50 pm.