

**Human Relations Commission**

**January 07, 2021 Minutes**

RECEIVED  
JAN 19 2021  
K. J. A. 1000 am TC

**Attendees**

Ritu Goel, Beena Pandit, Karell Rose, Linda Jeski, Charlie Margolis, Christy Shafer, Carolyn Carey, Library Liaison Mary Etter, Town Council Liaison Mary Justine Hockenberry, Anitha Elango, Guest Damian Humphrey.

Motion to approve December and January minutes during the February 2021 meeting and to approve November 2020 minutes,. Seconded by Karell Rose, and passed unanimously.

**Public Input: None**

Town Council Report: M, J Hockenberry expressed how disturbing the events at the Capitol Riot had been and that the South Windsor PD is working to make sure that South Windsor stays safe. If a resident doesn't feel safe, they can call SWPD. She also commended the HRC on doing a great job and that even if some people cannot express their opinions because of reticence, we respect their privacy, but hopefully they can open up to the HRC if they need help. There is a drive to collect hygiene products for women at the teen center that would be of interest to the HRC.

**Chair's Report:** Chairperson Ritu Goel clarified that the reason HRC was hosting a community conversation for MLK day was on the request of the Black Lives Matter subcommittee of the Town Council.

**MLK Day Event Discussion:** Deacon Art is going to moderate the community conversation to be held on Jan 21<sup>st</sup>, in lieu of the regular MLK celebrations. Deacon Art gracefully accepted the \$250 stipend offered by HRC. He had also volunteered to find a second speaker for the event who would also be offered the same stipend. A motion was made to approve \$ 500 stipend towards two speakers for the MLK community conversation event and seconded by Karell Rose. Motion was approved unanimously. Bina Pandit raised a question as to the email being used to coordinate the event and Ritu confirmed that the new email created for the HRC will be used for the event. Bina Pandit will be creating the flier for the event and Anitha Elango will share the event information with the Town Council, Board of Education etc, and also on online platforms. The HRC members will also be sharing information about the event on social media like facebook. Damian Humphrey will share the event with the DTC and the RTC in town. Invites will be sent out to the elected officials who represent South Windsor. Charlie made a few suggestions as to what the flier would convey and Karell expressed her hope that it would be made clear on the flier that the event will have ground rules such as it being a safe space, being respectful. Damian Humphrey suggested that all

electd officials be made aware that they could have questions they might have to address from community members who attend the event.

**Photo Contest:** Postponed for next year and no contest will be held in 2021.

Meeting adjourned.