

Minutes for the January 6, 2015 meeting of the Newington Human Rights Commission:

Present: Jayne Boulay, Paul Plavcan, Tim Manke, Phyllis DiCara, Karen Futoma
Absent: None

The meeting commenced at 7:00 pm.

- Jayne Boulay introduced Sue Dobkins and Jamie Linqvist, member of the public who are interested in becoming members of the Commission and have submitted their names to the appropriate nominating committee.
- Phyllis DiCara volunteered to take notes this evening.
- Election of Officers – Tim Manke nominated Jayne Boulay for Chair; Phyllis DiCara seconded the nomination; the vote was unanimous. Given the small size of the current board (4 members) it was agreed that any further officers (vice-chair, secretary) would be waived at this time. We will revisit the issue when additional board members are appointed.
- Discussed possible projects/events for HRC this year.
- Agreed to have a booth at the Home & Business Showcase on 3/21/2015. Agreed to authorize purchase of 500 bookmarks. Plan for Showcase will be to hand out bookmarks and HRC brochures. Display items donated to town Library at event; K. Futoma to request items from Library. Continued discussion of essay contest about Human Rights in Newington. Agreed that essay contest would be distributed at the Showcase. Two divisions – up to grade 9, high school/adult. \$25 first place award. P. DiCara will draft proposed question and rules of contest for next meeting.
- Other projects/events discussed were participating in Extravaganza which is scheduled for 7/18/15 and the Waterfall Festival scheduled for 9/19/15
- Meeting dates for 2015: 2/10/15, 3/3/15 (snow day 3/10/15), 5/5/15, 6/2/15, 9/1/15, 11/10/15, 1/5/16
- K. Futoma gave the Human Services report; continued work on hoarding issues; successful holiday donations/distributions
- During other business the issue of a potential request by the high school to donate funds again this year to purchase t-shirts for their program came up. The members agreed that if a request is made for this year, that there are not funds available; however if they wish to consider making a request again in the future, they will need to submit a “Funding Request” explaining what they are seeking the funds for and how it connects with our stated goals and purposes as a commission. P. Plavcan will draft a form.
- Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m..