

BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS  
THERE WILL BE A PUBLIC MEETING OF

**RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: October 10, 2023  
TIME: 2:36 PM

Reserved for Town Clerk Use Only

**Committee Name: Belmont Human Rights Commission**

**Subcommittee Name if Applicable:** Click here to enter text.

**Date: June 8, 2023**

**Time: 6:00pm**

In keeping with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020; "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law" - All Participation for Town Residents will be by Remote Access. If the audio becomes unavailable, the meeting will be paused until it can be restored, or the meeting will end.

**Topic: Belmont Human Rights Commission**

**Time: Jun 8, 2023 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83324131255?pwd=dVE3NXRaWHpNTDJSaitMSTkvVVhFUT09>

**Meeting ID: 833 2413 1255**

**Passcode: 876561**

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,83324131255#,,,,\*876561# US (New York)

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Notes

Meeting called to order 6:12

1. Email/phone review (Kim)
2. Liaison reports

- a. Fire Department (Chief DiStefano)

- i. Civil service- application will open July 1st. Test is in October. We would like to see a diverse applicant pool and sign up if they see a vacancy in Belmont. He's asking us to outreach to members in the community or groups for people with diverse backgrounds to apply. Send inquiries to Chief DiStefano or a tour or ride time in the afternoon or evening.

- b. Police Department (Det. Chris Donahue)

Increased police force, transfer from Boston. Two more graduates in a week or so. Press time- Officer Lepo and ? news recognition. Recognition from Cambridge sgt on new hires. One is Black- almost at capacity. Retires- Shea and Capt. O'Leary at the end of the month. Looking for more candidates. Chief has been working with HR to remove civil service. Recognizes it's a tough call to move on. Some departments can create their own requirements-who do we want working for us. We have to prepare for the future in our department.

Department was trained in ABLE training (Active Bystander Law Enforcement). One of 5 departments that took the training. "This project is an 8 hr session, recertified annually for another 8 hours. Training technical assistance and research to routinely intervene- avoid mistakes and officer health and wellness" We're trying to promote training so people can step in to stop bad police behavior. Chief Mclsaac and Hurley, thanked them for their support. Important for officers to step up. Officers should be empowered in the community. This is transformational, we are willing to do what it takes. Chris would be willing to have people come in for the training. Train the trainer. Chris will speak with the Chief. Importance on building with the community and organizations. Kim expressed interest with the BHRC going through training with the police department.

- c. Belmont LGBTQ Alliance (Jess Hicks)

Pride on June 17 at 1:00 green near the First Church. A few speakers. Walk will begin at 1:15. Shortened walk. Hang out at the Green. Lots of tables, sponsors and donations. Get the word out. Come join us if you can. 4:00 for goodbye to Fran at Trinktisch- she was the founder of LGBTQ and a long time member of BHRC.

Friday before Pride- sidewalk chalk "Kids of All Ages"- Jess will give us the time once it's set.

Retreat was last night- taking a recess in the summer. Adding some activism work nationally where rights are being taken away. Lucky to be in MA where we have rights. With Fran stepping down; this will be a time of transition

3. Juneteenth

- a. Volunteers

- i. Ye to contact students for photographs

- b. Program

- i. Kim to contact Silly Sally for bubbles

- ii. Jess- suggested during the intro we mention why as a multicultural community celebrate Juneteenth
- 4. Belmont Pride
  - a. Volunteers needed
- 5. Town Day
  - a. Rescheduled for fall- September 17th
- 6. Membership/Summer schedule/Goals for next year
  - a. Decided to meet if needed.
  - b. Joan Horgan resigned due to health reasons and other obligations.

Meeting adjourned.