

Belmont Human Rights Commission
Belmont Town Hall
November 1, 2007

Meeting Minutes

Members present: Laurie Graham (Chair), Lisa Bernt, Judie Feins, Trish Lohmar, Moez Rawji, Camille Sarrouf, Connie Williams.

Members absent: Janet Cudmore-Boswell, Nan Donald, Roz Kabrhel, Fran Yuan.

Liaisons present: Selectman Paul Solomon; Lt. Peter Hoerr (Belmont Police Dept.); Kathryn Bonfiglio (Belmont Against Racism).

The meeting began at 7:08 p.m.

1. Vice-Chair selection: Moez Rawji was elected Vice-Chair.
2. Minutes of October 4, 2007, meeting: approved as amended.
3. Phone line: No messages since Oct. 15. Instructions distributed for telephone monitoring.
4. Upcoming event: Nov. 13 meeting at Chenery from 7:00-9:00 p.m. is set and has been publicized.
5. Forum with Belmont Community and Police Department: Discussion of Police Community Dialogue, summary of forum, issues to be considered, addressed as to follow up to dialogue. HRC will invite Belmont Chief of Police to an upcoming HRC meeting.
6. Discussion re diversity, cultural events: Discussion of possible content and timing of such event(s). Laurie Graham will take initial steps to set a date for such an event.
7. One Book One Belmont: Discussion of program. Motion carried--HRC will help with hospitality duties at Jan. 31 event at Belmont Public Library.
8. Race and Place Dialogue: E-mail message from Fair Housing Center was distributed.
9. Resource materials: Lisa Bernt will put together a binder of information re Fair Housing legal issues.
10. E-mail address: HRC's new e-mail address is belmonthrc@yahoo.com. Laurie Graham also provided information re a yahoo listserv for issues of interest to Belmont residents.
11. Investigation process: Discussion re meaning of investigative process per HRC Charter, and current practice.
12. Massachusetts Association of Human Rights Commissions will hold a meeting on Nov. 2.
13. Belmont Against Racism: Kathryn Bonfiglio reported that a suspect has been arrested in the murder of Herman Taylor. METCO has announced a Gospelfest on 11/30 at Belmont High School to benefit a scholarship fund.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Draft minutes submitted by Lisa Bernt.