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*Belmont Human Rights Commission*

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**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, April 2, 2015**  
**Belmont Town Hall**  
**Conference Room 4**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:05 p.m.

The following were in attendance:

Members: Carl Brauer, Nan Donald, Mirela Duda, Jirair Hovsepien, Paul Solomon, Daniel Vernick, Barbara Watson, Fran Yuan

Liaisons: Belmont Against Racism: Kathryn Bonfiglio

Police Department: Peter Hoerr

1. **Meeting minutes:** The March 5th meeting minutes were accepted unanimously with several minor corrections.
2. **Report on phone line and e-mail correspondence:** Nan reported that correspondence was received from Town Meeting Member D. Ruvolo about the offensive nature of a flyer that had been distributed around the Grove Street playground and there was discussion. One caller was referred to Mental Health Legal Advisors and a second caller did not leave sufficient contact information.
1. **Upcoming Events:** Nicholas Kristof, the investigative reporter and co-author of the book *A Path Appears* will be speaking at Belmont High School on April 15 at 7:30 p.m. The event is free, but tickets are required.

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide State House Event and March.

A number of other upcoming events were discussed including Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>'s Gay Pride Parade. There was also a discussion on how we might reach out to the community to help make it feel more welcoming to people who might not find it welcoming or to have more community building activities, like the Freedom to Marry Ice Cream Social and DARE cookout after the Memorial Day Parade.

3. **Public Accommodations and Transgender Individuals:** Fran and Carl have been reaching out to different organizations to find out more information on this issue. Further information will be gathered and there will be ongoing discussion.
4. **Institutionalization of Appointment of High School Liaison/Member:** Daniel Vernick, Fran Yuan and Mirela Duda will review the applications and invite a small number of students to attend the next HRC meeting.
5. **Selecting a new HRC chair:** The HRC will elect a new chair at the June meeting.
6. **Liaison Reports:**

**Belmont Police Department:** Captain Hoerr asked the group if we thought there would be interest among our members and other HRC groups in a program on use of force training received by police officers.

**Belmont Against Racism:** Kathryn invited people to join members of BAR for Boston's Mother's Day March for Peace and suggested that anyone interested in carpooling contact her through BAR's e-mail.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 pm.

Submitted by: Barbara Watson