

# Revere Human Rights Commission - Subcommittee on Cultural Holidays & Celebrations

## May 20, 2021 - Meeting Minutes

1. **Meeting Called to Order by Subcommittee Chair Kathi Reinstein**
2. **Roll Call of Subcommittee Members:**
  - Quorum Present: Jalon Fowler, Dr. Lourenço Garcia, Kourou Pich, Kathi Reinstein
  - Reuben Kantor was also present and ran the technology for the meeting.
3. **Review, discussion, approval of any additions to the City of Revere's Cultural Awareness & Events Calendar**
  - Kathi updated the subcommittee that everything that was submitted to the Cultural awareness calendar has been entered and cross-checked.
  - Thank you to Janine Grillo Marra, Reuben Kantor, Andressa Ferreira and Nick Romano for their assistance in getting the calendar accurate and posted
  - Kathi informed the subcommittee that she reached out to the city to request a list of what the city already has scheduled (relative to awareness/cultural/historical/religious events/recognition.) Once the city makes that available, she will share it with the sub-committee members.
4. **Approval Authority for the HRC Chair, Future ED/DEI person to have the Authority to approve future Calendar submissions.**
  - Kathi mentioned that this subcommittee gave some of this authority to the Chair and future ED/DEI person for things that come up "suddenly" or between HRC and Cultural Holidays & Celebrations subcommittee meetings. This motion would be to give them that authority overall, thus not holding on submission approvals due to waiting for the next sub-committee meeting.
  - **Motion by Jalon Fowler to give Authority to the HRC Chair and/or the future ED/DEI person the authority to approve future calendar submissions. Motion seconded by Lourenco Garcia. Approved Unanimously.**
5. **For the May or June Meeting:**
  - Kathi urged her fellow commissioners, residents, etc to review the calendar on the HRC webpage and propose what can/could be added and what, in the future could be recommended to the City/Mayor's office for recognition (a banner, proclamation, celebration, etc.)
  - Discussion relative to topics/ideas to share/suggest that a future ED/DEI person expand upon:
  - Dr. Garcia said this was an important step forward when an ED/DEI person is in place; they will know what direction the HRC wants to go in and what the needs/wishes of the city would be.
  - Kathi commented that since we were able to approve the motion that we may not need to meet in June. Also, she mentioned that the subcommittee may go to an "as needed" basis for now until an ED is selected.
6. **Other**
  - Kourou raised a former discussion/point regarding Dr. Garcia's Idea of "finding space" to expand upon various cultural/holiday /awareness days
  - Dr Garcia commented that he was thrilled with the Calendar but perhaps in the future we could expand upon it and link background information, an additional page with cultural information, images/video as it would complement what we have started.
  - Reuben commented that this effort would be labor intensive and that perhaps there were some Revere High School Students that could help with these projects. Reuben said he is game to find the technology

to back this up. Dr. Garcia commented that there are many RHS students who could likely help as a project or internship. Also they could possibly use it to earn community service hours needed to graduate. He mentioned he would also speak to Dr. Perella as well.

- Kathi echoed Reubens comments that this is a lot of work and referred back her comments about asking commission members/subcommittee members (and community members) to take ownership of a holiday/celebration/awareness that they want to see expanded upon and do the background “leg work.” She also suggested that any committee members are welcome to take charge (take the lead) of such a project or projects.
- Dr. Garcia also mentioned the RSCHP and perhaps we could assist them with their cultural displays.

## **7. Housekeeping/Announcements**

- Kathi informed the subcommittee members that she will send an email with the minutes of the meeting; along with a reminder for the following:
  - i. That the subcommittee members compiled individual lists (think about) what cultural/historical events/recognition that we would recommend to the Mayor to recognize.
  - ii. That each member compile a list relative to topics/ideas to share or suggest with a future ED for them to expand upon once they come on board.
- Beginning June 15th, meetings will be going back to “in-person.” Kathi said she will send an email to the subcommittee members asking them preference for when/what time meetings will work. She realized that everyone has various obligations (such as work, family, religion, etc.) and that perhaps 5pm on the 3rd Thursdays of the month may not work anymore; and a quorum is needed to hold subcommittee meetings (a quorum is 4 members.)
- Today President Biden signed the Covid-19 Hate Crimes Bill
- Sending thoughts, prayers and good vibes to our neighbors in Beachmont and the firefighters who were battling the blaze today.

## **8. Adjournment**

- ***Dr. Garcia made a motion to adjourn. Kourou Pich Seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.***