

CITY OF REVERE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

5:00 pm Eastern Time

Location: City Council Chambers or via Zoom

Monthly Meeting – February 1st, 2024

1.) Acting Chair Hossaini calls meeting to order

2.) Roll call of commissioners

- Present in Person: Attorney Molly McGee, Chief Chris Bright, Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, Kourou Pich, and Acting Chair Chaimaa Hossaini
- Absent: Reverend Tim Bogertman and Chief David Callahan

3.) Land Acknowledgement

- Recognizes that Revere is on the land of the Pawtucket and extends an invitation for any Indigenous or First Nation's People to spectate the circle from zoom.

4.) Approval of Minutes of the December 8th Meeting

- Chief Bright motions to approve, Dr. Garcia seconds. All are in favor.

5.) Monthly Acknowledgements

- **February is Black History Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month**
- **On February 7th, the Senior Center will be having a luncheon and a movie showing of "King in the Wilderness" for BHM at 11 am**
- **Unmentioned Acknowledgements: Lunar New Year is on February 10th**

6.) Recap what we have done in January

Participation in the video for MLK Day

- **All the commissioners present made a statement in the video made for MLK Day**
- **Dr. Garcia: Made sure that different voices regarding MLK were being presented to the public, for he was one of the most prominent leaders in the civil rights movement. Thanks to all the commissioners for wanting to participate in the video and voicing our opinions. Chair Hossaini thanks the Dr. Garcia for all his hard work**
- **Attorney Molly McGee Appreciates Dr. Garcia for spearheading this project and getting all the commissioners involved.**
- **Chair Hossaini: Watched the whole video; loved seeing the students in a discussion surrounding the subject of MLK; loved that people of her generation and in the next generation have such strong opinions and standing by them is inspiring to see. Encourages students to watch our meetings or come into them. Emphasizes that celebrating MLK's legacy should not be limited to one day but all the time, for he is the blueprint of making changes to the city.**

- **Commissioner Kourou Pich:** Thanks Dr. Garcia for making and holding the space for anyone to have that conversation surrounding MLK. Mentions that the community is lucky to have Dr. Garcia because of projects like this.

Plans for Black History Month

- **Dr. Garcia:** Has spoken with Revere TV and members of Commissioner Pich's team to bring upon an event for Black History Month
 - One of the members, Ife, is the main one running the event
 - Thanks the City of Revere for funding that event
 - There is a compilation of various literature surrounding BHM that is available to all revere employees and to the public
 - **The Event:** There will be an event taking place on February 28th, 5-8pm, at the Revere High School.
 - Ife will be showing a small film and a rain shout for the community to participate in
 - Thanks Commissioner Pich for connecting him to Ife
- **Commissioner Pich:** Thanks all the commissioners who were involved in the planning for this event and especially the mayor/the city for funding this event
 - Further explains that the rain shout is a way to learn more about black history and to understand the experiences of the people who came before us
 - Encourages everyone to go to the event; there will be cultural food for people to enjoy
- **Chair Hossaini:** Mentions to post the flyer and other information regarding the event on the HRC website

Meeting with the Mayor

- **Chair Hossaini:** Mentioned that the entire commission met with the newly elected mayor on ways to build a connection between the HRC and city hall and to discuss ways to bring more events to the city. Thanks the mayor for giving us the space to really voice our concerns and ask about ways the city can help us.
- **Attorney McGee:** Acknowledges that it is incredible that a human rights commission can have a coherent discussion with a city mayor in 2024. Commends the mayor and his administration for the work he has promised to do with us and for standing on the right side of history.

Announcement for the new members

- **Chair Hossaini:** Makes a small announcement that there are prospective members that will be joining us in the commission in the subsequent months

8.) Other businesses

- The commission must prepare to make votes on who is the next Chair and Co-Chair, which will be made in the upcoming monthly meeting
- **Chair Hossaini:** Mentions that since the events in February have been planned out, it is time to plan for March; it is International Women's Month. Mentions that many things

could be focused on like (TW) Domestic Violence Awareness or a timeline of the social evolution of women since the suffrage movement.

- **Attorney McGee:** Interested in celebrating female leaders from Revere
- **Commissioner Pich:** We can do a breakfast or a luncheon to celebrate women leaders in our community. We can have speakers and perhaps even involve the students from the high school. Chair Hossaini mentions that we can do a 30-sec snippet for each leader and compile it and show it in the luncheon.
- **Dr. Garcia:** Agrees with the rest of the commission and suggests interviewing men to see what they have to say about the women in their lives.
- **Chair Hossaini** plans to have a subcommittee meeting (the Cultural Events one) with the rest of the members in the committee to really start planning this meeting

9.) Open Forum

- **No one on zoom**
- **Steve Morabito** make way to the stand
 - **Announces that he is the new DEI director of the city of Revere**
 - **Looks forward to collaborating with the commission**
 - **Opinion of the potential event for International Women’s Day Event: have the interviews on Revere TV or record it beforehand and show it while people are eating and then after the section, we have the speaker for the rest of the event.**
- **Chair Hossaini:** Cannot wait to start working cohesively with the DEI director
- **Chief Bright:** Knows that Mr. Morabito will make an excellent addition to the city and thanks Dr. Garcia for all the expertise that he provides for the commission and the city.
- **Dr. Garcia:** Welcomes Mr. Morabito to the HRC, is excited to see where this relationship will go because of the understanding and expertise that Morabito has.

10.) Adjournment

Because of the conversations we have been having, we ended the meeting with the mission statement and our core values. We encourage anyone to contact us or come to our meetings to voice any concerns they want us to address.

Commissioner Pich motions to adjourn, Dr. Garcia seconds. Meeting is adjourned.