

**To contact the HRC: ONLINE [Revere.org/HRC](https://www.revere.org/HRC) or CALL Claudia Correa, Director, at 781-286-8115**

### **Monthly Meeting on September 7, 2023**

- 1. Acting Chair Hossaini calls the meeting to order**
- 2. Roll Call of Commissioners**
  - a. In-person: Attorney McGee, Chief Bright, Dr. Garcia, Commissioner Pich
  - b. Online on zoom: N/A
  - c. Absent: Rev. Tim Bogertmen, Chief Callahan
  - d. Quorum is present
- 3. Land Acknowledgment**
  - a. Recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land. Includes moment of silence to acknowledge that Revere is the land of the Pawtucket tribe.
- 4. Approval of the May Monthly Meeting**
  - a. Molly Approves
- 5. Monthly Acknowledgements**
  - a. Labor Day
  - b. National Guide Dog Month
  - c. National Grandparents Day (Sept 10)
  - d. Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept 15 – Oct 15)
  - e. World Peace Day (Sept 21)
  - f. National Native American Day (Sept 22)
  - g. Yom Kippur (Sept 24)
  - h. European Language Day (Sept 26)
  - i. Sukkot (Sept 29 – Oct 6)

Chairperson Hossaini: If there are events/celebrations that were not mentioned, please go to the HRC website to add an event.

- 6. Open Forum regarding Agenda Items**
  - a. No one was present
- 7. Topics for Discussion**
  - a. **Recap of the summer**

Chairperson Hossaini: Used the summer as a time for training and familiarizing with the structure of municipal government to prepare for the role as chairperson. Has also attended to the Revere Markets on Saturdays at Sandler Square to better her relationship with her immediate community

Attorney McGee: Invited to the Civics Day at the Susan B. Anthony Middle School; impressed by the advocacy provided by the students regarding civil issues. Commended

the things that she saw from the students and the members of the commission for their work in the school department. The type of conversations that she heard are things that are not being spoken about in surrounding cities. Asks for students to come to our meetings to be more involved with the HRC. Chairperson Hossaini echoes what Attorney McGee has said on the importance of student involvement with the city.

Commissioner Pich: Participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual pride parade back in June and has invited people to come to next years' parade.

Dr. Garcia: Reflected on our practice as the HRC and the Revere schools and overall education. Went to a conference revolving around the school system that; saw how different schools around MA are addressing issues regarding discrimination, diversity, equity, and inclusion -> how can this apply to the Revere Public School system. Allows for planning on how to support the students. Chairperson Hossaini mentions how this is an opportunity of how the HRC can get more involved with the school

HRC Director Correa: Went to the Colombian Flag Raising, how it gets bigger every year and we would like to see more it. Chairperson Hossaini recommends for people who be on the lookout for other flag raisings that may occur to they can be of attendance

## **b. Goals for the fiscal year**

### **History of the HRC – Attorney McGee**

HRC started in the 1980's and then reinstated in the 2020's

Both present and past members make up this history that needs to be showcased – in efforts to make changes to the future, we need to learn about the past

Inviting the community to talk about their stories, whether that be the immigrants who moved here, the people who worked for the city (Police, Fire Department, City Hall), or the people who were already here.

Chairperson Hossaini: Wants to personally focus on the Moroccan Americans; has expressed that she will do anything to provide any information or help with this project.

Commissioner Pich: Thanks Attorney McGee for her work on this project. Wants to focus on Cambodian History, especially with the refugee resettlement in Revere in the early 80s. It is important for that history to be set out, especially for the younger generation. Chairperson Hossaini agrees and adds that they were a prominent part of the community in the late 1900s and how even people outside of Revere are

knowledgeable about the prominent Cambodian community that was present in the 80s; people must know about them and their history

Dr. Garcia: Used to be a social studies teacher for many years – commends Attorney McGee for this project; points out the importance of mapping out the whole story, no matter what it is, especially when learning about different immigrant groups. Understanding our past will allow us to plan

Chief Bright: Commends Attorney McGee for her work; comments that this project will teach people about Revere

Attorney McGee: Reiterating the importance of everyone's stories and unique experiences is vital to this project. If anyone wants to be a part of this project, reach out to HRC Director Correa or to the HRC at the Revere HRC website.

## **8. Discussions surrounding IPD and Columbus Day**

Attorney McGee: Work with Strong Oak with circle practice, very interested in learning about circle practice -> this is a practice that is used by First Nations and other Native American Tribes and would love to see it incorporated into everyday discussions (how can we integrate it); we need to see students and other members of academia to join us

Commissioner Pich: Grateful for the resources provided by Strong Oak. Plan to have a circle discussion with Strong Oak about IPD/Columbus Day for the October meeting. If anyone is interested in attending, please reach out to HRC Director Correa or directly to the HRC through the Revere HRC website.

Chairperson Hossaini: Both holidays are important to many people in our community, but ultimately recognizing that IPD is a nationally recognized day and that the people of Revere should understand why. Reiterates how the people who want to get involved in the circle discussion reach out to Director Correa or to the HRC directly.

Attorney McGee mentions that we have had a circle done during a meeting before (last year); mentions that circle training should be more utilized in the community (can be alternates to approaching the criminal justice system and incarceration). Wants to highlight the geographical location of Revere and why it is relevant to the importance of circle training. Chairperson Hossaini: Agrees with Attorney McGee; mentions

that the different lands in and surrounding Revere (Deer Island, Rumney Marsh, Revere Beach) should give us more of a reason to have these discussions happen because of their Native American origins. Recommends for people to watch the November meeting to get an idea of how the circle meeting should look like.

**a. Talk about prospective members who want to join the HRC**

Chairperson Hossaini: Whomever is interested in being a commissioner should reach out to Director Correa or to the HRC directly -> we anticipate for prospective members to join our meetings to see how the meetings are laid out in person.

Dr. Garcia: We would like to see more attendance and members in collaboration; with an emphasis on representing marginalized people (as per the mission statement). We should make a profile for prospective members as a guideline on what we expect. Chairperson Hossaini agrees with Dr. Garcia in terms of having people who are not already represented to invite them to join our meetings or join the HRC.

**9. Other Businesses**

- a. HRC Director Correa: Regarding Hispanic Heritage Month; a few local organizations and community members that will be showcased on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm
- b. Chairperson Hossaini: Mentions the Shirley Ave Cultural Festival on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, where a variety of businesses will be showcased for the community to see

**10. Adjournment**

- a. Attorney Molly motions to adjournment, Chief Bright seconds. Meeting is adjourned