

Laconia Human Relations Committee

July 11, 2022 - Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

David Stamps welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Laconia Human Relations Committee. Committee member roll call was taken, a quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order at 3:33pm.

II. ATTENDANCE

Present – Chair David Stamps, Carol Pierce, Janet Simons, Matt Soza, Trish Weatherbee, Pat Wood and Carrie Chandler

Present via Zoom – David Osman, Kate Bruchacova

Excused – Mayor Andrew Hosmer, Rev. Judith Wright, Kay Anderson, Seifu Ragassa

III. OLD BUSINESS

Minutes Approval – **A motion was made by Matt Soza, seconded by Carol Pierce, to accept the minutes of the June 13, 2022 Laconia Human Relations Committee; with no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.**

Financial Report

We have a current balance of \$4,791.07. Additional funds to further support this year's Multi-Cultural Festival were requested. There is a City Council meeting this evening and the Council will likely appropriate additional funds (in the approximate amount of \$3,882 but not yet determined) to help support the increasing costs of this event. **A motion was made by Pat, seconded by Janet Simons, that upon approval the committee will allocate \$1120 of current funds plus whatever additional funds are earmarked for Multi-Cultural Day by the City. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.**

Multi-Cultural Day

- Things are moving along well
- The website has all current forms needed for vendors and volunteers

Pride Flag

Thanks was expressed to Mayor Hosmer and David Stamps for approaching the city with our request to proudly display the Pride Flag. This request was granted and the flag was present through the July 4th weekend. It is not clear that this extends to other years, during June Pride month, but we will approach the city again next year in advance. We received a note from the pastor at the Congregational Church in appreciation. An email of thanks is being drafted to the individual who wrote a letter to the editor.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A More Perfect Union Article Series

- Article #3 is ready for publication. **A motion was made by Janet, seconded by Matt Soza, to submit article #3 to the Daily Sun for publication, with no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.**
- Article #4 “Who is at the Table?” Matt, Janet, David S. and Carrie will work on editing and readying the article for our next submission.

NH Humanities Council presented a program “Towards a More Perfect Union”

- Josh Tepley – explore the idea “Why Education is so important in Democracy”
- Reach out to Josh to discuss this idea, timing, etc. Carol, Trish and perhaps Kay will discuss.
- Write a final article exploring this idea
- Engage High School students and other community members
- Schedule a live forum in the fall (October)

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no one present for public comment.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Pat Wood, seconded by Matt Soza, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by Chair David Stamps at 4:34p.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 8, 2022, 3:30p, City Hall Room 200A and via zoom invite.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Chandler,
Recording Secretary