

# Laconia Human Relations Committee

## October 31, 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 1:35pm.

### II. ATTENDANCE

Present – Chair David Stamps, David Osman, Matt Soza, Trish Weatherbee, Janet Simmons, Rev. Judith Wright, Pat Wood, Elaine Morrison & Dick Smith (Guests) and Carrie Chandler

Present via Phone – Carol Pierce

Excused – Mayor Andrew Hosmer, Kate Bruchacova, Kay Anderson, Seifu Ragassa

### III. NEW BUSINESS

#### Martin Luther King Jr. Art Proposal

Elaine Morrison presented a proposal for an Art Exhibit in January in Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. This event will be held at the Belknap Mill (who has already agreed to waive the fee). The Mill, Elaine and the Human Relations Committee will work together to present a display of artwork (art and photography) with the theme of: The life and/or work of Martin Luther King Jr. Each artist will provide a statement about how their piece reflects some aspect or inspiration of the life and/or work of Dr. King. All works must be originals and suitable for framing or hanging (financial support to frame artwork will be provided on an as needed basis). A statement of intent and short artist bio must be received by December 1<sup>st</sup> including medium proposed as well as overall size. Each proposal will be reviewed and acted upon as soon as received. Decision to display artwork is at the sole discretion of the exhibitors. All works must be received by December 26<sup>th</sup>. The show will run from January 2<sup>nd</sup> through January 30<sup>th</sup> in the Riverside Room at the Mill. The Art Exhibit is open to artists of the Lakes Region and students who attend Laconia schools. At the MLK Jr. Celebration on January 15<sup>th</sup>, some of the artists will be asked to talk about their pieces to encourage dialogue with the audience. Perhaps gospel music would enhance the event. **Pat Wood made a motion, seconded by Matt Soza, to accept the proposal and creation of a sub-committee to discuss the Art Exhibit details and frame a budget; with no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.**

#### Anti-Hate Response

In response to and support of Miriam Kovacs (a Franklin businesswoman who addressed the Human Relations Committee at a prior meeting), the committee voted to purchase stickers that can be posted at local businesses with a message of inclusion. Now that we have the stickers in hand, a letter will be crafted to explain the project and a list of businesses will be developed in the hopes of littering the city with this welcoming message of safety and acceptance.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was no one present for public comment.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:40p by Chair David Stamps.

***Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 3:30p, City Hall Room 200A and via zoom invite.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Chandler,  
Recording Secretary