



DRAFT

**BARNSTABLE COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS
ADVISORY COMMISSION**

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**Minutes of Special Meeting
Wednesday, September 9, 2020
Remote participation**

Advisory Commission Members Present:

Alan Milsted (Chair), Kate Epperly, Wendy Bierwirth, Jeanne Morrison, Katie Riconda, and Dave Schropfer

Also Present:

Brian O'Malley (BC Assembly of Delegates liaison), Pat Armstrong (Town of Yarmouth Liaison), and Susan Quinones (Coordinator)

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and initial comments

Alan Milsted called the meeting to order and Susan conducted a roll call @ 5:06 pm. Susan reviewed the Open Meeting regulations and announced that the meeting was being recorded. Any persons joining the meeting were asked to identify themselves.

Jeanne Morrison thanked the member for their outreach and support during her recent medical leave.

2. Recommendations for action from Subcommittees/Working groups

Intake Subcommittee

It was decided to start with review of the Intake Form because the Commission has received two complaints and may receive two more.

The wording of the forms was reviewed in detail. By Roll Call the Procedures and Policies and Intake Form were approved as modified. The Commission authorized the Intake/Complaint working group to make any further revisions necessary in preparation for a formal vote by the Board to accept the Complaint packet for usage at the September 21st board meeting. Revisions made subsequent revisions will be available for review as part of the meeting materials for the next regular meeting of the Commission. The Commission will use the updated forms and will reassess and review this complaint forms at the end of the year.

Reports by other subcommittee/work groups were tabled until the next meeting.

Report of the Coordinator:

Susan Quinones submitted a written report. She gave a brief review of an incident that had occurred at the Assembly of Delegates meeting where two members of the public were thrown out of the virtual meeting. Susan had replied to a press inquiry by saying that the HRAC would be the appropriate forum for these individuals to bring a complaint, and that the Commission is ready to address the incident, if complaints are lodged.

Brian O'Malley advised that the Assembly has a Code of Conduct for its delegates but no specifics on public participation in public meetings. The county website has a brief set of guidelines which do not preclude any of the behaviors of the public speakers who were asked to leave the meeting. He has drafted for discussion a resolution offering parameter of public participation.

It was decided that the Commission hold off issuing any further statement on this issue at this time.

Susan announced that advertising for the January 2021 Commission openings will be published later this month.

Report of Chair:

Alan Milstead announced that the Census 2020 must be completed by September 30th, unless a court challenge to delay early closing of the census prevails.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2020, 5:00 pm, location TBA.

Adjournment At 6:30 pm, following a roll call to Adjourn, the meeting was ended.