



## Clinton Human Rights Committee

### Minutes

Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 7:00 pm

- Call to Order - Meeting began at 7:00 pm
- Roll Call:

Amanda Corcoran	Brendan Saunders
Ava Crayton, <i>Vice Chair*</i>	Leah Scoppa
Laurie Jaffe	Tom Shultz, <i>Chair</i>
Natalie Jones	Caitlin Turner, <i>Secretary*</i>
Josue Rodriquez, <i>Student Advisor</i>	David Melillo, <i>ex officio member</i>

(\* indicates absent from meeting)
- Guests - Joe Carapella
- Approval of December 2021 Minutes
  - Natalie made motion to approve.
  - Amanda seconded.
  - Motion passed unanimously.
- Correspondence - None
- Approval of 2022 Calendar
  - David made motion to approve.
  - Brendan seconded.
  - Motion passed unanimously.
- Relationship with Clinton Public Schools - Tom, Ava, Amanda
  - Tom is continuing his involvement with the schools. He will be meeting with Leslie Chausse, sponsor of the Morgan School Social Justice Club, later this week and will be meeting with the club soon. Tom mentioned that Abel had expressed interest in setting up a poetry event at Morgan. Amanda knows the art teacher at Morgan and will speak with her about doing an art project at the school. Natalie expressed interest in that project as well. Tom and Laurie are meeting with Maryann O'Donnell (superintendent) and Marco Famiglietti (assistant superintendent) tomorrow to discuss data that the CHRC thinks will be helpful, and ways in which the CHRC can work with the schools.

- Morgan School news - Abel, Leah  
Leah discussed a current project in which students will prepare an exhibit about the diverse nature of the Morgan student body. A map will show students' and their families' countries of origin, and languages spoken at home will be listed. Abel believes that this project will help inform students about the diversity in the school.
- Meetings with HCH Library and other possible partners - Tom and others  
Tom and Laurie will be meeting with Sarah Borgnis-Tobin, Adult Program Director at HCH, next week to discuss developing library initiatives. Tom discussed his recent meeting with Police Chief Vincent DeMaio, in which the Chief had described a few initiatives he had taken; Tom thought the meeting went well. David mentioned that he thinks the Chief has been responsive to community needs.
- Social Media - Tom  
Tom asked the committee members to "like" and comment on the CHRC Facebook posts.
- Health Equity ideas/communications - Amanda  
Amanda has done research on "Period Poverty" and has been discussing this issue with Abby Roccapiore, PTA Vice President. Although 14 states have programs concerning Period Poverty, Connecticut does not. Amanda will continue her research and continue to reach out to the schools. Natalie will work with her on this initiative. Tom will raise this initiative at tomorrow's meeting with O'Donnell and Famiglietti.
- Research and demographics - Laurie, David  
No discussion of any new matters.
- Grants - Laurie, David, Tom  
Tom will be meeting with Cynthia H. Clegg of the Community Foundation of Middlesex County to discuss possible funding.
- Podcast/video storytelling presence - Brendan, Tom, Natalie  
Tom and Brendan will meet to discuss Brendan's plan for podcasts. Brendan said he would be interested in interviewing a high school student. He is doing his first podcast next week, with writer Drew Ladd.
- Messaging - brainstorm ideas for catchy slogan on yard signs, stickers - All, Tom, Natalie  
No discussion.

- Ongoing discussion of targets and goals - Ava  
Discussion tabled until next meeting.
- Afghan Refugee Resettlement with IRIS - Ava  
Discussion tabled until next meeting.
- New Business
  - Discussion of antisemitism initiative of the American Jewish Committee and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Tom advised the committee members that this initiative has been adopted by nearly 50 towns in Connecticut, including Guilford and Madison, and he supports asking the Clinton Town Council to adopt it as well. Committee members were in support. Tom asked Laurie to prepare a preamble to accompany the presentation of the initiative to the Town Council. Amanda made a motion to request that the Town Council approve the initiative. Laurie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
  - Tom met with Eric Bergman, who is on the Town's Sustainability Committee. Eric is interested in including principles of equity in discussions of sustainability matters. Tom would like to ask Ava to draft a statement on equity. Amanda made a motion to present a statement on equity. Natalie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Adjournment  
Tom called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion was made and seconded.  
Motion passed unanimously.