

City of Rye-Human Rights Commission
Meeting Date: February 24, 2020

In attendance: Danielle Tagger-Epstein, Corey Stark, Ruth Merkatz, Kelly Grayer, Adrienne Mecca, Julie Souza (by phone)

Danielle Tagger-Epstein opened the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Old Business:

The minutes of the January 27, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Commission reviewed the structure and membership requirements of the newly formed 501 (C)(3), Friends of Rye Human Rights, Inc. She will have Commission member, Amanda Witheiler, contact the City Attorney, Kristen Wilson, to review the work which has been completed to date.

A revised form of the Safe Space Pledge will be reviewed and a final copy will be approved at the next meeting. Danielle Tagger-Epstein will contact the Westchester County Human Rights Commission to pursue possible training options for organizations adopting the pledge.

Danielle Tagger-Epstein reported that, in general, the responses to the Human Rights Commission's statement in support of the Rye Free Reading Room's Drag Queen Story Hour was well received. The Rye Free Reading Room intends to increase programming options to include organizations within the community in the future.

New Business:

Danielle Tagger-Epstein informed the members of the Human Rights Commission about the formation of a new community outreach group "pRYEde". The mission of this organization is to increase community awareness of the issues involving inclusion, diversity and acceptance. The possibility of partnering for programming and events was discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

The March 16, 2020 meeting was cancelled due to directives from the Governor's Office.

Submitted:

Adrienne Mecca, Recording Secretary