

## Minutes Human Rights Commission 9/17

In Attendance: Danielle Tagger-Epstein, Alison Relyea, Corey Stark, Kelly Grayer, Emily Dorin, Julie Souza (City Liaison)

Absent : Ruth Merkatz, Amanda Witheiler

Guests: Meg Cameron , Natalie Auerbach

Meeting convened at 7:30 pm. by Chairperson Danielle Tagger-Epstein.

Motion was made by Corey Stark and seconded by Kelly Grayer to approve minutes from the last meeting in February. All approved.

Tagger-Epstein shared information regarding the Black Lives Matter rally and the new group Rye Coalition for Change. pRYEde Community Group had a successful event on Village Green celebrating Pride month and the hope to work collaboratively with both these groups moving forward. Tagger-Epstein also shared that she met with the Rye Neck school District to discuss some of the instances of bias seen on social media as it pertains to schools. Kelly Grayer shared that there is a concern in the immigrant community and that the CRC is preparing for evictions. That there has been success in raising money through their Emergency Assistance Fund to help families who are not eligible for federal funds. There is a need for a network of attorneys. Discussion was had about recruiting lawyers and establishing a list of that we could put on Human Rights website . It was also mentioned that the process for creating a 501C3 had started, which could allow “The Friends of the Human Rights Commission” to fundraise in the future. This could allow for some sort of Emergency Crisis Fund. There was a general consensus that we would need to wait and see what happens in the fall to see how we can support families through different organizations.

Danielle Tagger-Epstein introduced Natalie Auerbach who gave a presentation of an Anti Racist Task force that would be created under the charter of the HRC. A vote was called to approve the formation of the task force and subsequently a vote was called to have Natalie Auerbach to lead it. It was unanimously approved.

This was followed by a conversation regarding recruitment to the task force and how to reach out to members of the community including some younger members of the community who are starting to get involved. The importance of data collection was also discussed and how each commission member would like to be involved.

Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by

Danielle Tagger-Epstein