

# Metuchen Human Relations Commission

Tuesday, January 5, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Call To Order: 7:33pm

## Attendance:

Members		Liaisons		Student Liaisons	
✓	Nicole Blankiet	✓	Sheri-Rose Rubin	✓	Max Rubin
✓	Richard Green III	✓	Robin Brown	✓	Michelle Tang
	Hazel-Anne Johnson-Marcus	✓	Edward Porowski		
✓	Lorraine LeSter	✓	Ed Zellej		
✓	Asela Mourao				
✓	Ozair Omarzai				
✓	Reena Wade				

## Present member(s) of the public:

Grace Shackney, Metuchen Arts Council

## Reorganization

Due to the absence of Hazel-Anne, Ozair has made a motion to postpone reorganization until February 2 meeting. Nicole seconded the motion. Approved by acclamation.

## Review & Approval of Minutes:

December Minutes - Approved by acclamation

## Council Liaison Report:

HRC members with expiring terms have been renewed.

The Mayor and Council have seen the impact of HRC and plan on introducing an ordinance for adding 4 new members within the next several months.

## Public Comments:

Online letter submitted from Stephen Kenny <[skenny005@gmail.com](mailto:skenny005@gmail.com)> of Metuchen Youth 4 Equity and Racial Justice, a local community group expressed interest in his group partnering with Metuchen HRC on a presentation about Indigenous Peoples Day. Metuchen HRC has formed a subcommittee to begin planning an educational event for Indigenous Peoples Day consisting of Ozair, Lorraine, Michelle, Nicole, Ed Zellej, and Richard.

## Windows of Understanding Project

Project will consist of 3 different presentations with a supporting video presentation that will play on local public access stations. Events will be promoted across social media and will include a banner from the Metuchen Arts Council.

### Food Insecurity & Youth Engagement

Subcommittee: Nicole, Reena, Asela, Lorraine, Richard

Event Date: January 27, 7:30pm on Zoom

Community Partner(s): First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen Food Pantry, Kiddie Keepwell Camp

### Trauma/Healing & Public Health

Subcommittee: Ozair, Reena, Richard, Nicole

Event Date: February 24

Community Partner(s): Metuchen First Aid Squad and Women Aware New Brunswick

### Climate Change

Subcommittee: To Be Determined

Event Date: April 21

Community Partner(s): Edison Greenway Group

### **Metuchen & Woodbridge Human Relations Commission**

Ozair will be working with the newly formed Woodbridge Human Relations Commission to share what has worked for Metuchen over the past several years. It is the goal of the commission to have members from each town attend each other's meetings.

### **Upcoming Meeting/Important Dates**

Jan 27 - Windows Of Understanding Community Conversation - Food Insecurity & Youth Engagement

Feb 24 - Windows Of Understanding Community Conversation - Trauma/Healing & Public Health

Apr 21 - Windows Of Understanding Community Conversation - Climate Change

### **2021 Metuchen HRC Meeting Schedule**

Feb. 2 | Mar. 2 | Apr. 6 | May 4 | Jun. 1 | Jul. 6 | Aug. 3 | Sep. 7 | Oct. 5 | Nov. 2 | Dec. 7

**Adjourned:** 8:30 PM