

Newburyport HRC
March 14, 2019

Attendance: Tom Getz, Camille Gimbrere, Jen Groskin, Ahmer Ibrahim, Hannah Kubat, Kat Preftes, Rose Robinson, Kathleen Shaw, Sheila Trieff

Next meeting: April 11th

Meeting called to order: 8:13

Guest Speaker: Marianne Vesey for WIMBY.org

“Welcome In My BackYard” involves individuals signing a pledge to end discrimination in housing and public accommodations and to promote accessible, integrated communities. Marianne is looking for HRC help in building coalitions in Newburyport to get peoples’ signatures on the pledge.

Possible HRC involvement:

- Participate in a day of canvassing to talk about and get pledge signatures ...possibly after Memorial Day.
- Connect with documentary “Know Your Neighbor.”
- Check website for examples where program is working.
- Follow-up with those who have pledged.
- Possible coalitions: Chamber of Commerce, local radio show, clergy association, High School community service club “Interact Club,” book stores, coffee shops, literary festival...

Peace Prize: Wednesday, April 24th, 6:30 pm @ City Hall

- Kat sent applications to schools and continues to pursue IC.
- Commissioners contact assigned schools after about a week.
- Ahmer/Peter sent bank letters.
- Kat will contact Superintendent.
- Kat will post Adult Peace Prize. One application has been received.
- City Hall has been confirmed.
- Entertainment: possibly Gardner Rulon-Miller @ Breshnahan
- Printed programs will be modified for simplicity and expense.
- Kathleen will contact photographer, Brian Eaton.

Holocaust Memorial @ Firehouse

“Diary of Anne Frank”: April 12th @ 8 pm and April 13th @ 2 pm

- Nock Middle School will be involved with poetry.

David Kaye with “How I Brought Peace to the Middle East: A Tragicomedy”:
April 11th @ 8 pm and April 13th @ 8 pm

Firehouse Support

Holocaust and Documentary “Know Your Neighbor”

Pride Event (end of June): Possible video to be shown in Teen Loft in Library--Peter will pursue. Rainbow crosswalk also was suggested.

New HRC Members

Yet to be approved

IFTAR

Room at Senior Center reserved for Wednesday, May 22nd.

“Know Your Neighbor”

Filming schedule delayed until April.

David Zoffoli (Creative Haverhill) is possible documentary help.

February minutes approved.

Check-in with Commissioners

Ahmer noted that the Main Street Congregational Church in Amesbury has been designated as a sanctuary church, level #1: a safe place to stay for those with legal cases pending....also a level #2: volunteers can help with food...

He suggested we invite a representative to a future HRC meeting.

Ahmer also noted the possibility of inviting Robert Azzi and his program “Ask a Muslim Anything” to participate in the IFTAR celebration.

Kat learned that a Newburyport reading teacher is focusing on diversity in reading materials. Lisa Furlong at the Nock would like to develop a restorative justice program to deal with student issues.

Kathleen noted the Hopewell program for pregnant teens is closing.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:52 pm.