

HRC April 11, 2019 630pm

630pm start time today to accommodate those who want to go to the Firehouse afterwards for the Holocaust Remembrance Series Event

Meeting started at 6.30 pm

In Attendance:

K Shaw, K Preftes, M McQuillan, P Blaiwas, T Getz, A Ibrahim, K Nye, S Trieff

Changes to minutes made from last meeting:

Adding S Trieff to attendance

Few small corrections / typos that were fixed.

Approved as corrected

### **Peace Prize**

April 24<sup>th</sup> 6.30 PM City Hall Auditorium

Adult nominations:

Bruce Vogel

Pat Connelly

John Webber

Dave Fortier

After a healthy deliberation:

Winners: Dave Fortier and Pat Connelly

Entertainment: Mr. R-M from Molin (music teacher)

Photographer: Kathleen to arrange (from Daily News)

Food: Kathleen

Prizes: Jabberwocky gift cards – All to get with money from NBT Bank. IFS will send cards directly to HRC.

Programs/ Certificates: Peter. Will print limited numbers to conserve resources. Plan to project program on screen.

### **Holocaust Remembrance Series**

At the Firehouse

Tonight is 1<sup>st</sup> night of the series.

Play "How I saved the Middle East"

Friday April 12: Legacy Partner Story – Nettie's Story.

Program is at 7pm

Students will read their poetry after the main presentation

Facilitated discussion between HRC and audience. Religious Hate Crimes will be the focus. Questions selected that will go into the program and will be the basis for discussion. Margaret graciously prepared some excellent questions to be circulated.

### **Suitcase Stories**

Two levels

1. Suitcase Stories live -- Requires a 10k donation
2. Community Showcase \$2,500-5,000
3. Suitcase Stories unpacked

We would like to pursue this ideally next year. Will see if there are any grants that the Firehouse or other local groups can get to fund. Would likely do a Community Showcase.

### **Pride**

Peter booked room at library for Celluloid Closet -- History of homosexuality in this country in film. Also the history of homophobia in film

June 17<sup>th</sup> (Monday) – 630pm

Library will be showing LGBTQ themed films all week as part of Pride Celebration

### **Schools**

Kat met with Superintendent Gallagher

Very productive meeting. He is very excited to have HRC be available to the schools and is very interested in us having an open dialogue with each other about ongoing issues as well as proactively planning educational events.

He and Lisa Furlong want to be part of the multicultural committee the HRC will be forming.

MC Committee will be A. Ibrahim, K Preftes, and E Ryan

Fight bigotry and poor choice of words in school and buses

Restorative justice program to respond to issues as they occur.

### **Iftar**

May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm

Next meeting May 9 – will iron out details

J. Groskin: putting color of tape on back of chairs to assign groups to sit together at dinner.

Then they go to color coded table and talk to people and get to “Know Your Neighbor”

Roughly will have A Ibrahim give Islam 101. Will then have Robert Azzi be the keynote with his “Ask a Muslim Anything” Program. He will come to our May 9 meeting to meet us and to describe his program.

Conclude with fast breaking, observation of prayers, dinner, and hopefully more good discussion.

### **Update on student empowerment event**

R. Robinson: Girls Rising event

20+ girls came

Photos of empowered women shown

Discussion ensued

Watched short film about How you present yourself to others. What do you show? What do you hide? What do you risk?

Event was well attended and feedback was very positive.

The students who organized the program were pleased with the results as well

### **New Members**

Eileen Ryan and Katie Nye are awaiting meetings with the Mayor. After that they should be on track to be official Commission members.

Kat Preftes will be stepping down after her current term is complete. She has reached the maximum number of terms she can be on the commission. Will be in need of a new chair or co-chairs.

### **Know Your Neighbor**

We had a recent KYN meeting. See those meeting notes for details. We will hopefully resume work on this project after the Peace Prize and the Iftar. In general, we have been thinking about a more directed approach to further interviews. Looking to “tell a story” rather than just capturing people on the street. An idea to have this as a installation at the Firehouse as opposed to a true film was discussed at the KYN meeting. This may be a less resource intensive way to get at least a phase I of the project complete and on display for the public. Based on public interest and reception – we may wish to continue the project in the future and add to what we complete as a possible phase I.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10pm

Next Meeting May 9