

Virtual | Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building  
4 So. Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT

## MINUTES

In accordance with PA 21-2 §149 and social distancing guidelines recommended by the CDC to slow community spread of COVID-19, this meeting will be held virtually. A video recording of the meeting will be available on YouTube at "MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT STREAMING CHANNEL" (<https://mansfieldct.gov/video>) within seven (7) days after the meeting.

Public Comment will be accepted by email at [FerraraMT@mansfieldct.org](mailto:FerraraMT@mansfieldct.org) or by USPS mail at Town of Mansfield, Attention: Monica Ferrara, 4 South Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06268 and must be received prior to the meeting (public comment received after the meeting will be shared at the next meeting). Please email [Ferraramt@mansfieldct.org](mailto:Ferraramt@mansfieldct.org) or call 860.429.3304 by 4:00 PM on the day of the meeting to receive instructions for how to view, listen, or comment live.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Fried called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

### 2. ROLL CALL

Present: Allopenna, Fried, Hosmer, Kanadia, Vaughan

Excused: Alfred-Abney, Farrow, Nocton

Student Volunteers: Derek Cameron

Staff: Monica Ferrara

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 14, 2022

Ms. Hosmer moved to approve the minutes, Ms. Allopenna seconded. Minutes approved with all in favor.

### 4. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. Affordable Housing Check In

Ms. Fried attended the housing committee meeting last week and stated that it is going to be complicated, but the committee did a great job. She will provide Ms. Allopenna with the contact information of the Affordable Housing Committee Chair.

Committee members briefly discussed affordable housing efforts in Mansfield and the role that the HRC can play.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Black History Month**

Members briefly discussed events for Black History Month. Ms. Fried stated that there is an event that the NAACP is hosting a Zoom presentation. Commission members would like some of the events to be posted on the HRC webpage.

### **B. Women's Month**

Ms. Kanadia provided an update on some of the information that she learned for Women's History Month. She also provided an update on the morning announcements in the Mansfield Public Schools to talk about key figures leading up to MLK Day, Black History Month, and Women's Month. This will continue for each month.

Ms. Vaughan suggested collaborating with the Library or the Community Center for Women's History Month.

Ms. Vaughan moved to add Juneteenth Event as item C under New Business, Ms. Allopenna seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

### **C. Juneteenth Event**

Members briefly discussed what to do for Juneteenth. Ms. Fried was given contact information for the person responsible for a Juneteenth event in the schools and she will follow up with them.

## **6. MEMBER REPORTS**

Ms. Allopenna reported that on February 3, 2023 from 5-7 pm Deliberation and Discourse is holding public forum on education access.

Derek Cameron, Student Volunteer, stated that EO Smith stated that a mural vote took place and the students chose one that includes the mascot.

Ms. Fried stated that she had talked with two individuals who have spearheaded a project entitled "Ignoring Racism is Racism". They have lawn signs, car magnets, and other items that are free to the public. She also stated that she talked with an organization from Hebron that focuses on diversity. They are calling a meeting of other Human Right's Commissions in the area to start talking about some of the things they can do/what needs to be done.

Ms. Kanadia reported that she went to a celebration in Willimantic in December, and he joined the Willimantic NAACP. She also signed up for two of the speakers at EO Smith.

**7. COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**8. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 7:46pm by consensus.

Submitted: Monica Ferrara, Assistant Town Clerk/Staff