

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 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 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

Jane Fried called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Ray Fricano, Jane Fried, Sabrina Hosmer, Jeannine Kanadia

Excused: Velda Alfred-Abney, Barbara Vaughan

Volunteers/Guests: Micah Heumann

Staff: Katherine Bell, Margaret Chatey, Monica Ferrara

Sabrina Hosmer moved and Jeannine Kanadia seconded to add discussion and approval of the graphic to the agenda under new business, to be discussed before Old Business. Motion passed with all in favor.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 9, 2023

Ray Fricano and Jeannine Kanadia seconded to approve the minutes from August 9, 2023. Motion passed with all in favor.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Celebrate Mansfield

Jane Fried discussed her ideas for activities for the Celebrate Mansfield Festival including a board to allow people to say hello in their language. Jeannine Kanandia reported that she has been working on a cultural comfort food

activity for celebrate Mansfield. The Commission will also have a map for community members to pin where their family is from – this has been used in past years.

Sabrina Hosmer moved and Ray Fricano seconded that the theme will be “Happy to Say Hello”. Motion passed with all in favor.

Members also discussed and signed up for what they can do for Celebrate Mansfield. Staff to pass out the agreed upon assignments.

Micah Heumann introduced himself as a member of PFLAG. He explained what PFLAG does as an organization. Note: PFLAG was going to share a table with the Human Rights Commission at Celebrate Mansfield and last minute was given a table of their own.

B. Affordable Housing Check In

Ray Fricano stated that he had made contact with staff of the Affordable Housing Committee and that he will know more at the next meeting.

C. Community Conversations

Jane Fried stated that the Community Conversation to be run by the Deliberation and Discourse group has been postponed a bit, but it will be co-sponsored by the Human Rights Commission when it does happen. Jeannine Kanadia reported that she made contact with the school for the “My Roots are Showing” conversation and that we are waiting on the chair to fill out an application/registration. Jane Fried discussed the final Community Conversation, an interfaith conversation, and that she has found some people to talk from each faith.

D. Say Hi to a Stranger

Discussed under Celebrate Mansfield.

E. October News Letter Article

Jane Fried reported that she will be introducing the Community Conversations/Say Hi in the October News Letter.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Approval of Graphic

Members briefly discussed the different graphic options. Jane Fried moved and Ray Fricano seconded that we accept and use graphic 2A as the graphic for the Human Rights Commission. Motion passed with all in favor.

B. Recruiting New Members

Members briefly discussed recruiting new members.

6. MEMBER REPORTS

Sabrina Hosmer stated that she is running for the Board of Education and that she will be campaigning next month. She has met a lot of great people and feels excited and energized. She is also going to promote the Human Rights Commission.

Jane Fried reported that the Senior Center has a book discussion group called Death Cafe and that it was wonderful. It is an opportunity for people to come together and talk about loss. She stated that she was going to continue to attend the meetings. The Senior Center is also doing a 5 session workshop on Healing from Racism.

Katherine Bell gave an update on what Youth Services is up to for the fall. Katie also reported that there will be an expansion of services to EO Smith.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Jeannine Kanadia moved and Ray Fricano seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 pm. Motion passed with all in favor.