

**City of Lambertville
Human Rights Council
7 PM Monday January 13, 2020
JUSTICE CENTER, 25 South Union Street, Lambertville, NJ
MINUTES**

WELCOME – Roni Todd-Marino, member

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Roni Todd-Marino

SWEARING IN NEW MEMBER: Beth Asaro swore in new member Bruce Harris

ROLL CALL

(10) LHRC members:

Beth Asaro
Lt. Bob Brown
Emily Carone
~~Effie Castro~~
~~Leslie Darling~~
David Gardiner
Bruce Harris
Filomena Hengst
Bambi Kuhl
Roni Todd-Marino

LHRC Friends & Guests

~~Zach Berliner~~
~~Mary Jane Legere~~
Eric Rounds
John Woods

11/11/19 MINUTES – Motion made by Beth Asaro, seconded by John Woods, all were in favor, Bruce Harris abstained as he was not a member on this date.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON: Beth Asaro made a motion to name Roni Todd-Marino as Chairperson, Lt. Brown seconded the motion, all were in favor.

THANK YOU TO EXITING MEMBERS – Roni Todd-Marino thanked John Woods and Beth Caruso for their contributions to the LHRC.

STATE OF LHRC – Chairperson Roni Todd-Marino

- Amplify voices of minority communities and vulnerable populations in the City of Lambertville – and create opportunity for community-building
- 3rd Annual We Are One celebration – continued success and community building
- Partnered with Fisherman’s Mark at Know Your Rights event
- Supported Fisherman’s Mark ID program
- Senior community served with pizza party and get to know their neighbors
- Hibernia apartments in crisis – educate regarding rights and how to advocate for themselves
- For students – piloted financial assistance for sports and enrichment activities
- For students – made connection to the Gay/Straight Alliance group
- Mental Health– exploring Mental Health support groups in Flemington and how to expand them down into Lambertville
- HRC – looking to increase our score by expanding local activities

OLD BUSINESS

- **SENIOR COMMUNITY** – Bambi Kuhl and Emily Carone
 - **Council-Led Event:**
 - **Hibernia** - Pizza & Movie Party – 2nd event in early Feb (1st in October 2019) – set the dates up for all of 2020
 - **Heritage Village** – new events manager, early talks for 1st pizza night
 - **Resident Council** – how can we help them get one set up, help them understand their rights – solid next steps – Beth Asaro will talk to Megan Warner or Julia Taylor to see if they have access to contacts/experts to assist and educate Hibernia residents to form a council.
 - **MEALS ON WHEELS** – asked to leave Hibernia, looking for a new home – Regina runs the program (Churches, firehouse, VFW, American Legion, Kalmia Club, etc…) – Roni Todd-Marino will interface with Regina to give her more suggestions.
 - **MAYOR CHALLENGE:** assist City in educating seniors regarding reduced cost programs – how to do?
- **LATINX COMMUNITY** – Roni Todd Marino, David Gardiner, Effie Castro
 - FYI - Fisherman’s Mark has a new director
 - **Partner Event:** Know Your Rights - Event owned by Fisherman’s Mark – next one being set up asap once new Director is settled in
 - **SIGNATURE EVENT:** We Are One BIG picnic update - Sun 6/7/20
 - **TRANSLATION services availability for city** – company called “VOICE” – live ‘FaceTime’ like interface – status pending, Mayor, we would be 1st in the state to have this technology
- **STUDENT/YOUTH COMMUNITY** – Filomena Hengst

- Gay Straight Alliance at SHRHS – Beth/Mary Jane attend regularly
 - Suggestion: invite Mayor in future
 - Offer city property for SHRHS Gender Equality Club
- Expand Gay/Straight Alliance to middle school students – Filomena will attempt to address with BOE on this topic – allowing for expansion without a middle school student stepping up personally
- **LGBTQ COMMUNITY** – Beth Asaro
 - **SIGNATURE EVENT:** Gay Pride Parade
 - **Investigate** future plans of Phillips Barber/Hunterdon Healthcare network – what new options/services will they have? What will expansion look like? Lt. Brown is inviting the office manager to attend our next LHRC meeting in February.
- **MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY** – John Woods, Lt. Bob Brown and friend of council Zach Berliner
 - **STIGMA FREE COMMUNITY** – proclamation draft will come to City Council (Todd-Marino)
 - **Investigate** future plans of Phillips Barber/Hunterdon Healthcare network – what new options/services will they have?
- **GENERAL UPDATES**
 - **MLK DAY 1/20/20** – Lambertville Academy (Legere), no LHRC support needed at this time

NEW BUSINESS

- **Mayor Fahl**
 - State of the City 1/31 @ LPS
 - Community Development Fair 2/1 @ LPS
- **2020 Calendar-building** – create resource framework
- **BRANDING of LHRC with Eric Rounds** – sub-committee Bruce Harris, David Gardiner, Roni Todd-Marino
 - Ideas for LHRC to vote on at 2/10 meeting
 - **THEME:** We Are One
 - **TAGLINE:** A STRONG COMMUNITY CELEBRATES COMMON UNITY

CORRESPONDENCE

- Leslie Darling stepping down off LHRC effective immediately
- World Interfaith Council resolution – Ribbons Harris – motion made by Beth Asaro, seconded by Roni Todd-Marino, all were in favor. Beth will bring to the CC for next meeting in January.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

ADJOURNMENT