

A meeting of the **HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE** for March 2021 was held tonight via web conference. Members in attendance were: Irv Brockington, Liza Meiris, Wendy Blutstein and Jake Marcus. Staff present: Charlyn Battle, Director of Human Resources. Guests present: Ann Rappoport and State Representative Napoleon Nelson.

1. Mr. Brockington called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.
2. The Meeting Minutes for February 2021 were accepted.
3. Comments from State Representative Napoleon Nelson:

Mr. Nelson talked about our community as a whole, challenges the government is facing and if we are providing the best services in reference to vaccines, discrimination and disability issues. Harrisburg has a lot of people who are trying to make sure we address the concerns of the communities and in the future the conversation will shift as more people are vaccinated. Mr. Nelson also noted that they will start to focus more on discrimination and we as local government always need to represent our communities in the way that we say we are.

Ms. Blutstein asked about vaccine distribution at the state level and why some counties are getting more than other counties. Mr. Nelson said there is not enough supply and they look at each counties metrics population and COVID impact and that is how counties get their supply of the vaccine.

Ms. Rappoport asked about senior living communities, who are eligible for the vaccine, but they may not have access to computers or internet and is there anything we can do to help them. Mr. Brockington asked if he could make these senior living communities his mission to provide vaccines to them. Mr. Nelson said they are doing their best to make sure everyone who needs a vaccine, gets one and they are working on getting information out in different languages.

Ms. Blutstein asked about various phone numbers people can call regarding the vaccine. Mr. Nelson said there is a COVID Hot Line (833)875-3965.

Mr. Brockington asked Mr. Nelson if he heard anything about COVID and Xenophobia in regards to our Asian population and if he could provide contact information for a Representative from the Asian Community to attend one of our meetings. Mr. Nelson stated that it is a problem; however we have not experienced it here in Cheltenham Township. He also noted that his office is here to support in whatever way they can.

4. Update on Glenside Fire Company:

Mr. Brockington stated that they have a new sign, which are the initials GFC; however the weather has delayed the install of the new sign.

5. Historical Markers in the Township:

Ms. Meiris said the Historical Commission is working on forming a committee to develop a process, similar to what the state does and the first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

6. Cheltenham Township Police Department Data Update:

Ms. Meiris said that she will have something by the next meeting.

7. Civil Rights Task Force Relationship with Cheltenham School District:

Mr. Brockington asked if we should be reaching out to the school district and maybe even getting a student representative to come to the meeting, to get a better idea of what is going on at the schools. Ms. Meiris said that she could probably make that happen, as she knows some of the kids who are activists. Mr. Brockington said that he could reach out to Joel Fishbein and ask him to attend our next meeting

8. Mr. Brockington asked if we needed a Civil Right Task Force Flyer. Ms. Marcus suggested a good time for the flyer would be during the open meeting that the group discussed because if they do it

now, people may come with the expectation that there is a procedure in place through the Committee, when in fact that procedure is supposed to be in place with the Human Relations Commission.

Ms. Meiris said the purpose of the flyer is to get more people to attend the meetings, diversity and let people we know we are here. We can also share this flyer on the Township website and social media sites.

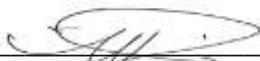
9. Old Business:

- A. Mr. Brockington said he is working with the Township to change the date of this meeting and he will reach out to everyone as soon as he gets a new date to make sure it works with everyone's schedules.
- B. Ms. Rappoport noted that William Taylor would be getting back to her with training dates; however Mr. Taylor said it has been delayed.

10. New Business:

- A. Ms. Meiris mentioned that Norristown just created a Black Lives Matter mural in front of their court house and suggested that the Township look into doing something similar. The Committee discussed the proposed idea for a mural and where it could go in the Township.

11. Mr. Brockington adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.



Robert Zienkowski
Township Manager

Per Charlyn Battle