

**Franklin Township Human  
Relations Commission Meeting  
Minutes of April 26th, 2023**

**Present:** Shubhendu Singh, Linda Montgomery-Williams, John Tibbs, Alex Kharazi, Ron Poustchi, Diamanty Chivikula, Pete Clark, Quinlan Paris, Stan Rosario

**Excused:** Gary Rosenthal, Edna Arguello Hitchner, Nora Catiis

**Absent:** Halen Abera, Ram Anbarasan, John Samba

**Police Officer:** Marcelo dos Reis

**Guests:** Daryn Plummer, Quiyon Peters

Meeting called to order at 7:04 by Linda Montgomery Williams in place of the Chairman.

Minutes of March 22, 2023 Approved

**Guest Report:**

Daryn Plummer, Supervisor of Equity & Inclusion began a presentation on the TV to celebrate the FTPS Diversity Night Festival to be held on Friday, May 12th, hosted by the Diversity and Awareness Committee. TV did not work, shown on the computer instead. Vendors are coming to the media center for diversity night for student performances, games, and celebration. Teen Pep is coming out as well as other performances. Breakout activities as well, to

encourage community members to find resources and involvement. They are also bringing awareness to neurodiversity. Quiyon Peters, Supervisor of School Counseling K-8 spoke about an extensive list of involvement and vendors for availability for the night festival and encouraged the Human Relations Commission to set up a vendor as well. Hosted by Candice Alfonso, Jayne Johnson, and funded and endorsed by local businesses, organizations, and vendors. John Tibbs asked what the committee was after much was said about Quiyon coming to Franklin from Sayreville. Plummer expected 100 to 150 attendees. Quinlan Paris spoke about attending the meeting with Quiyon with a gap in APs. Plummer spoke about how the Diversity committee came to be with the Equity plan and distributing it throughout the state, and for Franklin could they have a diversity celebration every year and it spawned a subcommittee. Plummer said the graduation rate for programs in the minority committees is over 90% in minority committees. Quinlan said she would be a liaison for the diversity committee for Franklin High School and try to get some high school students on board. A registration form is needed for the diversity committee.

### **Police Report:**

Marcelo dos Reis spoke about a food distribution center at 935 Hamilton street starting at 11 AM. Over at the middle school HSC there is a bike rodeo on Saturday, May 20th from 12 to 2. It is an obstacle course with cones for students to ride through. On June 10th, Saturday, from

10 to 1 there is supposed to be a fishing derby at colonial park and spoke about an area in the river for a lot of fish to catch, right off of Metler's road. Fishing poles will be provided if the kids do not have poles, and bait will also be provided. Limited to 20 kids. National night out will happen on Tuesday August 1st, from 6 PM to 9 PM, at the municipal complex. Saturday June 3rd, vendors and even the military will provide trucks for Touch a Truck and a food vendor with face painting will be provided, as well as a state police helicopter. Linda asked about the 4th of July, and Marcelo spoke about the fireworks show being held on July 3rd, on Monday. The Youth Academy applications will start on May 1st and close on June 1st, and the Police academy event will also be held. No ride-alongs with the Touch a Truck, and the Junior Police academy will teach drills to kids 8-12 or 9-12 and the academy will come in with the K9 units and show the daily activities of a police officer. Break-ins for catalytic converters in the glass windows of cars were discussed and Marcelo motioned for caution regarding locking your cars, with Linda speaking about speeding problems on Winston Drive.

**Other Business:**

Per Alex, National Day of Prayer on May 4th, starts from 12:30 right in front of the municipal building. There was a celebration last year at the mosque and a few politicians joined as well. It explained some about religious ceremonies, with different faiths coming in and talking about it as well as the politicians as well. It would be good if HRC Commissioners could attend. Another event is coming May 21st where the community will be brought together at the senior

center, the muslim community is inviting the rest of the community to the event. Tibbs spoke about how the HRC is giving valuable support to the minority community, and spoke about accommodating the Youth Center for other age groups, with more support from the YMCA. Resume workshops were discussed and leadership classes, as well as a work training program were suggested by Tibbs that he said he was working on.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM EST.**

**Next meeting on June 28, 2023. NO meeting in May due to Memorial Day**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Quinlan Paris**

**Junior Commissioner**