

**Franklin Township Human
Relations Commission Meeting
Minutes of August 28th, 2024**

Present: Gary Rosenthal, Elangkathir Elamaran, Rohan Kalidas, Johnny Tibbs, Kamla J. Sharma, Sam Velu, Rohan Kalidas, Ron Poustchi, Linda Montgomery-Williams, Shubhendu Singh, Edna Arguello Hiteher

Excused: Pete Clark, Councilman Kharazi, Nora Catiis

Absent: N/A

Police Officer: Ken Reid

Guest: N/A

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM.

Police Report: Everything has been going pretty well. Reid says to make sure that everyone locks their residences due to burglaries. Reid states that he finds a lot of garage doors open, and the door that connects the garage to the house is also open in the middle of the night. The national night-out was canceled due to bad weather conditions. People interested in the assistant police academy can apply for a twelve week course from 6pm-8pm each Wednesday. There are a plethora of topics learned regarding the interworking of a police-officers job. Right now, there are a low number of people who have applied to the course. The police department has not done ride-alongs in a long time but it is in the works due to its possible educational value to residents. The department allows individuals to “pull-over” a police officer and deal with a range of behaviors to show insight into a traditional stop. These courses are for people eighteen years and older. The youth center is offering multiple programs for youth, including a fitness program and an educational program. The police

department is also working on a senior citizen version of the assistant police academy.

Other Business: There was a motion to approve last month's HRC meeting. There is another meeting today and therefore, the HRC meeting will be shortened. Edna believes it is time to go to the council about the idea for flags for our community's fallen veterans. She has met with the chamber of commerce and they support the project. She has gotten in contact with a man named Louis who has connections in Manville. She will learn more about the inner workings of the project soon. There are dozens of veterans and senior citizens in the area that would rally for a FW organization in Franklin Township. Edna believes enough research has been done but action cannot be taken until the council provides permission. Alex, the HRC's liaison, will help us push this idea forward. The K-mart shopping center issue is coming up again at the zoning board's next meeting on October 5th. Tonight is an overdose awareness day. There is a new construction coming up on Cedar Grove Lane - supposedly for new homes. Johnny Tibbs says that there is an absolute need for low-income apartments in Franklin Township. He wishes to bring it up in the next zoning board meeting. Next month, there are hopes for someone from the inter-faith council to make an appearance.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm

The next meeting will be on September 25th, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Junior Commissioners Kathir Elamaram and Rohan Kalidas