

**City of Lambertville  
Human Rights Council  
7 PM Monday September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Phillip J. Pittore Justice Center  
25 South Union Street, Lambertville, NJ  
MINUTES**

**WELCOME** – John Woods, Chairperson

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – led by John Woods, Chairperson

**ROLL CALL**

**Attended:**

Beth Asaro  
Lt. Bob Brown  
Emily Carone  
Leslie Darling  
David Gardiner  
Bambi Kuhl  
Roni Todd-Marino  
John Woods

**Absent:**

Beth Caruso  
Effie Castro  
Filomena Hengst

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 5/13/19 and 7/15/19 minutes were approved – Beth Asaro moved and then John Woods seconded, all were in favor.

**SWEARING IN NEW MEMBER**

- **David Gardiner sworn in by John Woods as following Oath of Office:**  
“I (state your name) do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of NJ; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, and the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the Authority of the people; and that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of the office of Lambertville Human Rights Council member, according to the best of my ability (so help me God).”

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **SENIOR COMMUNITY – Bambi Kuhl and Emily Carone**
  - Follow up on Hibernia Residence and Heritage Village Senior Social Pizza nights. Looking to schedule in October. They will work with Mrs. McKnight Principal at SHRHS to ask for student volunteers and giving them community service hours.
  - John Woods looking to personally assist residents organize a resident's council. Roni Todd-Marino reminded us that Mercer County has a lot of resource related to resident's councils, and John Woods will check in with Megan Warner.
- **STUDENT/YOUTH COMMUNITY – Leslie Darling, Filomena Hengst**
  - Follow up on how to enhance inclusivity and diversity within the local sports teams.
  - Local grants are available to help families afford fees.
  - Next steps?
  - Work with Effie Castro and David Gardiner for support
- **IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY – Roni Todd Marino, Beth Caruso and David Gardiner**
  - We Are One Picnic – Planning, Sub team meetings outside of regular LHRC meetings
  - Immigrant Education Session – including new Mayor – Planning – including an ACLU representative (Zach Berliner will reach out).
- **LGBTQ COMMUNITY – Beth Asaro**
  - Updated LHRC Logo for t-shirts and signage/banner for use at New Hope Pride 2020. Beth Asaro and Roni Todd-Marino will meet with Eric Rounds before the next meeting.
  - Offering city property for SHRHS Gender Equality Club (Filomena Hengst).
- **MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY – John Woods and Lt. Bob Brown**
  - How to support our residents with serious and persistent mental health and illness issues? Are there local support groups here? Right now the Police refer issues up to Hunterdon Medical Center, and those persons are released within 2 hours, and it is not an effective process. Might the GETTING TOGETHER (consumer driven) group in Flemington allow for a satellite location? John Woods to reach out to them. Bambi Kuhl suggested John Woods call Hunterdon Mental Health.
- **GENERAL UPDATES**
  - Martin Luther King Day of Service 1/20/20. Mary Jane Legere will take lead and ask for our support.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Alleged targeting of South Hunterdon students via the internet was discussed. John Woods is taking issue to Filomena Hengst to see how the Board of Education is responding.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Email from Dr. Kim, from the Kim Center for Social Balance, in San Diego, CA would like us to support a gender equality proclamation; Beth Asaro will present to LHRC at October meeting. Beth Asaro will send out proclamation to the LHRC before the next meeting.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Bob (didn't get last name) from Hibernia asked about how rent rates were set at Hibernia, and he asked about a Housing Authority here in Lambertville. Roni Todd-Marino, due to her experience at Fisherman's Mark, was able to answer his specific rent rate questions with regards to HUD. Also, Roni advised Bob that there is no Housing Authority in Lambertville, and in Hunterdon County just a Housing Dept.
- Steve Chernoski attended as a parent and basketball team coach to discuss with us ideas about increasing diversity and inclusivity within local sports teams.

**ADJOURNMENT** - Beth Asaro moved, Bambi Kuhl seconded, all were in favor.

### **(11) LHRC members:**

Beth Asaro  
Lt. Bob Brown  
Emily Carone  
Beth Caruso  
Effie Castro  
Leslie Darling  
David Gardiner  
Filomena Hengst  
Bambi Kuhl  
Roni Todd-Marino  
John Woods

### **(2) LHRC Friends:**

Zach Berliner  
Mary Jane Legere