



ATTLEBORO COUNCIL ON HUMAN RIGHTS

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING INFORMATION

Date: Friday, June 26, 2020

Location: Zoom virtual meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81041892067>

Time: 6:00-8:00pm

Meeting Type: Council on Human Rights Special Meeting

Attendees: ACHR members Ellen Parker, Mary Flaherty, Stephanie Gray, Steve Berdos, and Barbara Clark; Laurie Sawyer, chairperson; Guests: Community members Katherine Lee, Mac Borgellas, Ashley Stewart, and former council member Stanley Estime

BUSINESS:

1. Discuss agenda, talking points, questions, and action items as they relate to the meeting with Mayor Heroux and Chief Heagney on Tuesday, June 23rd at 12pm at City Hall.
 - A. Laurie and Stephanie will attend to represent the council and the community.
 - B. Tone – conversational, focused on discussion and collaboration to proactively address systemic racism and examine police department policies here in Attleboro.
 - C. Goals – request information, ask follow-up/clarifying questions, discuss what other communities are doing, make recommendations
2. Topics of conversation to address
 - A. Body cameras
 - i. Advantages – protect residents/community and officers alike
 - ii. Limitations thus far for acquiring them for our officers
 - iii. Police union influencing the discussion – requiring stipend for officers to wear body cameras
 - iv. Recommend Attleboro implement a pilot program
 - B. Request data/demographics
 - C. Inquire about training requirements

- D. Recommend “8 Can’t Wait” national campaign to audit/analyze police department use of force policies
- E. Recommendation of a citizen’s advisory board to investigate complaints of excessive force against our department
3. Discussed contacting Ty Waterman to ask if he’s discussed with the city council the possibility of declaring racism a public health crisis
4. Discuss action plan, goals, and follow-up for the meeting and worked on the language of recommendations

Action Items:

- Update agenda/talking points for the meeting
- Meet with mayor and chief
- Regroup as a council and discuss next steps

Next Meeting: TBD special meeting (or Tuesday, 7/14 at 6:30pm)