



# ATTLEBORO COUNCIL ON HUMAN RIGHTS

## MEETING MINUTES

### MEETING INFORMATION

**Date:** Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Location:** Zoom virtual meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84498377428?tk=RU3lf1rRL9PYtjDj8gy3O0FNXQTkZZVMEWuQu8ipXck.DQIAAAATrH7q1BZSQ2lwUFExb1IONnlwcUxjVDhXaHl3AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA&pwd=MUlvbHJsK0JKZGNUMVWpocFUyL0o2QT09>

**Time:** 6:30-8pm

**Meeting Type:** Council on Human Rights Monthly Meeting

**Attendees:** ACHR members: Ellen Parker, Mary Flaherty, Stephanie Gray, Steve Berdos, Barbara Clark, Ashley Stewart, and Mac Borgellas; Guests: Stanley Estime and Bill Bowles; Chairperson: Laurie Sawyer.

### Business:

1. Chairperson Laurie Sawyer opened the meeting.
2. **VOTE:** All in favor of approving the minutes for July 14<sup>th</sup> and August 11<sup>th</sup> monthly meetings
3. Laurie introduced Bill Bowles, Chair of the Democratic City Committee and special guest to present to the council on Robert's Rules
  - A. Decisions are formalized by votes
  - B. No member should publicly state a position that has not been voted on
  - C. Before the meeting
    - i. Meeting properly posted
    - ii. Every member has agenda
    - iii. Chair should plan meeting/time allotted to each agenda item
  - D. Execute an effective meeting
    - i. Start meeting on time
    - ii. Chair makes opening remarks
      - i. summarize agenda
      - ii. start w/ approving prior meeting minutes
      - iii. discuss open items
    - iii. Chair introduces 1<sup>st</sup> item for discussion

- i. keeps discussion focused on topic
      - ii. gently reminds speakers to keep on topic
    - iv. Begin with old items
    - v. Cannot discuss items not on agenda
    - vi. Members can raise point of order
  - E. Calling items for a vote
    - i. At a key point in the discussion, the chair can summarize
    - ii. Ask if someone would like to make a motion
    - iii. Someone makes a motion, someone seconds, everyone votes
  - F. Non-agenda items
    - i. A member can make a motion that the council suspend rules to discuss non-agenda item
    - ii. Put “non-agenda items” on the meeting agenda
  - G. Discussion of relaxed Robert’s Rules as an option for ACHR meetings
- 4. Anti-racism meeting with Mayor Heroux
  - A. Mayor Heroux is planning a press release after purchased implicit bias and de-escalation trainings are completed
    - i. Question: how frequent will this training be offered?
    - ii. This year’s training will be done by September 17<sup>th</sup>
    - iii. **VOTE:** Passes for ACHR to request to review statement before it is released to the press
      - i. Abstain: Mary Flaherty
  - B. Mayor Heroux does not plan to update APD policy to ban chokeholds.
  - C. Making a report alleging excessive force by an officer must begin with reporting to police chief. Council discussed how that might prevent residents from filing claims.
  - D. **VOTE:** Follow-up items to take to Mayor Heroux
    - i. Trainings – provider
    - ii. Update policy on banning chokeholds
    - iii. Incident report available online
    - iv. Data – how to obtain
    - v. Citizens review board
- 5. Motion to end the meeting

**Action Items:**

- Put together language re: updating use of force duty to intervene policy
- Laurie will follow up with Mayor Heroux re: press release

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 from 6:30-8pm