

Abington HRC: Meeting Minutes for January 10, 2024

Present: Kristin Chapin, Michele Cooper, Rosemary Jenkins, Joanne Kleiner Esq., Shelley Rosenberg, Cheryl Rusten, Justin Williams

The minutes from December 2023 were approved.

Old Business:

AHRC Video: To date, Joanne and Justin have recorded their portions of the video. Michele will do so shortly so that the video can be completed and made public.

New Business:

MLK day: We are unsure what the Township is doing but will promote on our social media sites activities and events that are taking place in our community as we learn of them.

Black History Month. February is Black History month and we would like to acknowledge it in some way. Justin informed us that there is some controversy surrounding this month that we should be aware of. The committee members agreed to do some research prior to our February meeting so that whatever we decide to do will be cognizant of the issues around this designation.

2024 Goals and Plans. The committee will come to the February meeting prepared to discuss our goals and plans for the remainder of the year. Two initial ideas were discussed:

1. We need to keep our presence visible throughout the year whether there are “special months” to acknowledge or not. One possibility is to produce some content that explains generally what an HRC is and does and specifically what the Abington HRC has done and can do since many in our community are unaware of our existence.
2. Getting some relevant training, specifically on facilitating community dialogues. We discussed whether mediation training would be worthwhile but decided that training on running community dialogues might be more relevant. Shelley will talk to her contact at Tri-State to see if there would be interest in sponsoring a training open to multiple HRCs. Joanne will talk to her contacts about who might be willing to provide training. Justin will check into whether some groups he is aware of have received any grant money to run such trainings.

Next meeting: February 7, 2024

Respectfully submitted: Cheryl Rusten, Secretary