

## **Abington HRC:**

**March 1, 2023**

Present: Joanne Kleiner, Cheryl Rusten, Michele Cooper Rosemary Jenkins, Kristin Chapin, Jeffrey Browne, Shelley Rosenberg.

Guest: Commissioner Mike Thompson

February minutes approved

**New Business:** Commissioner Thompson reported to us about a new inclusive playground that is being designed and built at the Roychester Community Center. Sponsored by Commissioners Thompson and Carlswell, the playground's purpose is to allow children with all levels of abilities and disabilities to play together. All of the equipment is designed and situated so that everyone is able to mix freely during play. At a previous community meeting about the playground, there were residents with questions about the need for such a project and how it would be a benefit to the community. Commissioner Thompson asked the HRC if we would be willing to co-sponsor a movie-night showing of "Crip Camp," a moving documentary of children with disabilities at camp. After the movie, there will be discussion of the project itself, why it's important, and how such a facility will benefit children with disabilities. The hope is to encourage understanding of the benefits of the project and engage people's support. We're excited to work on this worthy project and are waiting to hear the date of the movie night.

### **Old Business:**

Michele will be choosing a date on a Thursday in May for the AAPI program, since May is AAPI Heritage month. The program will be a panel format and will examine the history of AAPI people in the United States, Japanese-American internment camps during WW II, and getting awareness of AAPI people's issues into the school district. It was suggested that we look into partnering with the school district, the libraries, and other groups and committees in the Township.

Shelley is in touch with Lisa Fadon of the Upper Dublin HRC about co-sponsoring a program on antisemitism. UD has contacted the ADL and we are waiting to hear what they are thinking of doing.

Joanne announced that we will return to conducting our own interviews for open positions and will be able to renew our membership on the Commission simply by telling the Township that we wish to do so.

**Next meeting:** Changed to April 12 because of the first night of Passover.

