

Abington HRC: September 8, 2021

Present: Kristin Chapin, Shelley Rosenberg, Joanne Kleiner, Rosemary Jenkins

Staff: Nathan Vasserman, Maria Wyrsta

Guests: Michele Cooper, Tom Hasani

Old Business

Minutes for June and July: Approved

August Meeting: Successful participation in Abington Night Out

Community Dialogues:

1. With the AAPI Community

We continued the discussion, with the participation of Michele and Tom, about a dialogue with the AAPI community in Abington. The plan is to show a one hour video and then stimulate conversation with questions like: What were your first impressions upon watching the film? What was something new that you learned? What questions do you have? What do you want to do about what you learned? Because of the ongoing Covid epidemic, the program will take place on Zoom. We will have an introductory comment, watch the film, divide into small groups for discussion (about 45 mins.), return to the large group format to report about the small group discussions, summarize and conclude.

The intended date for the program is November 13 and the time is 11-1:00. It will be promoted as a lunch and learn.

We will provide resources for those who want to learn more.

We will contact the Equitable Practices Committee of the School District to let them know about the event. We will also publicize it to all the Commissioners, on our Township webpage, on Facebook, and to any other appropriate audiences.

We will require tech support from the Township so that people can register in order to get the Zoom link. Michele will work with Tom on setting this up and will also work on a flyer. Joanne will send it to the Commissioners.

2. On the Film Walking While Black

We discussed having a second program showing and discussing this film and need the Abington Police Department's cooperation. Mike Thompson was going to discuss this with them. We had started to discuss the Garden but realized that it's much too large a project for us to take on alone. Rosemary will reach out to someone from the Yeadon Police Department, which has started a garden, to find out what they've done and how.

New Business: Indigenous Peoples' Day (Oct. 11)

Joanne is going to contact Mr. Manfredi to tell him that we want to make a proclamation acknowledging this day. She will write it and send it around for everyone to look at and approve. We will place it on our website and on our Facebook page and will ask that it be put on the digital display in the Township Building.

Next Meeting: Wed., Oct. 6