

Abington HRC: Meeting Minutes for November 13, 2024

Present: Members Kristin Chapin, Michele Cooper, Rosemary Jenkins, Joanne Kleiner, Cheryl Rusten, Justin Williams, and Ambassador Bonnie Dalzell

The minutes from October 2024 were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- *Social Media Update*
 - We posted numerous items over the last month. A more detailed report will follow next month.
- *LGBTQ+ Resource Fair October 19*
 - Cheryl staffed the table. Attendance was much lower than the prior year, possibly due to unseasonably warm weather that drew people outdoors. Those who visited the table were complimentary of what we are doing.
- *Braver Angels October Event*
 - The Committee was overall pleased with the attendance of about 40 and the level of engagement, although it was noted that the message was likely “preaching to the choir.” Two other local HRC members were present and impressed that we offered a program like this to the community.
- *Voter Intimidation flyer*
 - It was posted although it likely was not used much at the actual polls. Apparently poll workers got some training on handling issues from other sources.
- *Human Library Event*
 - Time is growing short to secure our human books. Bonnie needs to send a list of 5 names to the group in Denmark by the end of the month to vet for us to proceed. We committed to getting that list completed ASAP.
 - We discussed trying to find people that represent groups specifically mentioned in the Ordinance that established us, while recognizing that we may need additional people and that there are other groups who could engender good discussions. We recognized that our partner, the Abington Library, also has some topics it is interested in having represented.
 - We went through the various categories and made decisions about which to include; members of the committee took on specific categories to try to find people for.
 - We agreed to post a generic message on social media explaining the project and soliciting interested speakers; this has apparently been done in other places.
 - We will communicate via email between now and the December 4th meeting to make sure we are keeping on track with finding people. We will also need to start thinking about advertising the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Cheryl informed the group that she thinks her term expires at the end of the year and she will not be seeking an additional term. She has also informed Commissioner Lori Schreiber.

Next meeting: December 4, 2024

Respectfully submitted: Cheryl Rusten, Secretary