

**Needham Human Rights Committee
Agenda
May 18, 2017 7:30pm
Highland Room, Needham Town Hall
Recorder: JoAnne**

The Town of Needham's Human Rights Committee strives to reaffirm the worth and dignity of every human being. The diversity of our community is embraced and celebrated through the promotion of good will and respect for all.

1. Approval of Minutes from April 27, 2017 meeting
2. Public participation
3. Old Business
 - Update on May 16, 2017 meeting with Chief Schlittler and Selectwoman Marianne Cooley on Ken Farbstein's effort to advocate for the Town's adoption of the ACLU immigration enforcement policy recommendations. (Amelia, Marlene & Cynthia)
Action item: Do we want to consider organizing an event to educate the community or the NHRC to better understand the model policies and the Safe Communities legislation?
 - Report on event: Understanding the ISIS Threat and how fighting the threat impacts human rights? (Marlene, Abdul & Ashok) 115 attended, very well received, nice collaboration with the library. *Anything we want to make note of? Things that worked well? Could have been better?*
 - Update on program with International Institute of New England to co-sponsor Refugee Storytelling event on June 22, 2017 to raise money for IINE's refugee resettlement programming (Cynthia & Amelia)
Action item: How can NHRC members support the event?
 - Committee membership (Jen)
5. New Business
 - Summer book read in collaboration with the Needham Library: *In the Country We Love*, Diane Guerrero (Ashok)
Action item: Does NHRC want to co-sponsor this effort? Do we want to lead a discussion group?
 - Race Amity Day: June 11, 2017 (Amelia and Cynthia)
Action item: We are co-sponsoring this event, what is needed?
 - Jose Antonio Vargas event: June 10, 2017, sponsored by Progressive Needham (Cynthia)
Action item: Progressive Needham seeking partners, is NHRC interested? How can we support?
 - NHRC 2017 committee elections next month (June) & preliminary summer plans
6. Reports
 - Town Issues
 - Needham Schools (Matt)

- Needham PATH
- Update about Rep. Garlick's Coalition (Jen): No update at this time.
- Efforts to address cultural proficiency in Needham schools. (Amelia & Jen) No report, however, Dr. Gutekanst decided he will serve as the NPS liaison to the NHRC for the remainder of this year and will attend the June meeting.

7. Announcements

Next meeting: Thursday, June 15, 2017, 7:30-9:00pm
Highland Room Town Hall Recorder: Bud Schram

2017-2018 NHRC meeting dates:

September 14

October 19

November 16

December 21

January 18

February 15

March 15

April 26

May 17

June 21