

Janice O'Connell

A of D 9-19-18

From: Alan Milsted <alanmilsted@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 7:38 AM
To: Jack Yunits Jr; Leo Cakounes; Suzanne McAuliffe
Cc: Beth Albert; Linda Zuern; Brian O'Malley; Justyna Marczak; Tom Ryan; Robert Troy; drkateepperly@gmail.com; Owen Fletcher; Janice O'Connell
Subject: Re: HRC

Hello Jack, Leo and Suzanne,

I would like this message to be read into the record of both the Board of County Commissioners and the Assembly of Delegates, under Public Comment, at their meetings on September 19, and into the record of the meeting of the Workshop considering the Ordinances applying to the Barnstable County Human Rights Commission, at its meeting scheduled for the same date.

At their meeting on August 22, the Board of County Commissioners established a Workshop to consider the Ordinances (08-12 and 15-06) relating to the Barnstable County Human Rights Commission, and whether changes are needed. On September 4, the County Administrator, Jack Yunits, Jr wrote inviting participation by the Barnstable County Human Rights Commission; and on September 11 advised on the date set for a meeting of the Workshop. The invitation was considered by the Barnstable County Human Rights Commission at its monthly meeting on September 17, the first opportunity to do so, as the previous Mondays were Labor Day and Rosh Hashanah.

The Barnstable County Human Rights Commission noted last evening that September 19 is Yom Kippur, which, like Rosh Hashanah, is one of the most significant days in the Jewish calendar. It further noted that, in some municipalities, no public meetings are permitted on this date. No members of the **Barnstable County Human Rights Commission** or its associated Town Representation Council are able to attend.

We further noted that Section 3 (a) of Ordinance 08-12 states that one of the functions, powers and duties of the Barnstable County Human Rights Commission is:

To enlist the cooperation of racial, religious, ethnic, civic, fraternal, benevolent, and private and public agencies in eliminating unlawful discrimination by cultivating an atmosphere of mutual understanding and harmonious inter-group relationships.

We fully endorse the proposal to review Ordinances 08-12 and 15-06, and are committed to participate in deliberations of the Workshop. We will devote the business of our next meeting, on October 1, to consideration of **the topic**. There are many new or recently-**appointed Commissioners** and Town Representatives, and we are concerned to insure that our representatives to the Workshop provide informed contributions to the debate on the future of the Barnstable County Human Rights Commission.

We suggest that further meetings of the Workshop be delayed until after the elections for the Assembly of Delegates and the Board of County Commissioners on November 6, in order to avoid perceptions that political motives are determining the process. We would further ask that the time of the meetings should recognize that most Barnstable County Human Rights Commissioners and members of the Town Representation Council (all volunteers) are working people, who find daytime meetings difficult: perhaps they could be held on the evenings that the Assembly meets, rather than before it. Finally, we ask that meetings of the Workshop are videotaped and distributed in the same way as meetings of the Board of County Commissioners and the Assembly of Delegates.

We look forward to fruitful discussions of the Ordinances, and the opportunity the Workshop provides for Barnstable County, in the words which open Ordinance 08-12, to review the ways in which it implements its policy

to promote equal opportunity for all persons in Barnstable County regardless of race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, age, ancestry, sexual or affectional preference, marital, family or military status, source of income, neighborhood or disability where unlawful discrimination exists in housing, employment, education, public accommodations, Town and County services, insurance, banking, credit, and health care.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Milsted
Chair, Barnstable County Human Rights Commission

On Tue, 11 Sep 2018 at 14:19, Jack Yunits Jr <jack.yunits@barnstablecounty.org> wrote:

Alan,

Sorry I missed your call. In Bourne all morning.

Our next workshop will be next Wednesday at 1:30 to accommodate the Assembly reps who meet at 4pm. Please make sure at least 2 members of your Board are available to participate. We are cognizant of your time line with the Academy and so we are hoping that everyone comes prepared so that we can make as much progress as possible. In the interim I suggest that our academy partners step up to assist in the Academy prep.

Jack