

**MINUTES
LGBTQ+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 21, 2020**

Present: Chair Beth Shapiro; Committee Members Sandy Aldieri, Ari Kubie, Phil Pessina, Vincent Dawes, Christine Santacroce, and Larry Timmons. Staff: Assistant General Counsel Christopher Forte.

Public: Matthew Grae LaRose, Yasemin Ugurlu, Steven Kovach, Alison Williams.

1. Call to Order By Staff.

Meeting was called to order by Staff at 5:37 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes for the November 19, 2019 Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Committee Member Pessina made a motion to approve the minutes. Committee Member Kubie seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously at 5:48 p.m.

3. Public Session on Agenda Items.

4. New Business:

5. Old Business:

A. Updates from Staff. Assistant General Counsel Forte announced our Emcees and Grand Marshals for Pride 2020, the Bridgeport Sound Tigers Pride that will take place on March 20, 2020, that Middletown Pride is exploring membership in New England Regional Pride and that Middlesex Health has come in as a sponsor for Pride 2020.

B. Entertainment Subcommittee Updates for Pride 2020. Subcommittee member LaRose announced that applications for performers and for our stage show, including our venue applications, which will highlight a LGBTQIA venue with a feature in Middletown Pride's stage show. Committee member Aldieri recommended including due dates for applications on our website, together with dates that Middletown Pride will contact individuals selected to perform during Pride. Discussion regarding having Chamber staff present near the stage to ensure the stage show runs smoothly. Committee member Pessina recommended that we work with Public Works regarding the stage for Middletown Pride. Committee member Timmons suggested we reach out to AT&T, Verizon, and T-Mobile to work with Pride regarding a screen on stage. Subcommittee member LaRose discussed having a canvas present on the green during Pride that people can write on with messages on what Pride means to them.

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C. Social Outreach and Education Subcommittee Updates for Pride 2020. Committee Members Kubie discussed the Stoles Project and wanting to get a showing in Middletown, about working with an organization and Committee Member Aldieri to get posters printed up for pride with facts and outreach contact information.

D. Sponsorship Committee Updates for Pride 2020. Committee Member Santacroce discussed the restructuring of Pride's website to accommodate sponsors.

6. Adjournment.

MOTION: Committee Member Aldieri made a motion to adjourn. Committee Member Timmons seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.