MINUTES
LGBTQIA+ COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 16, 2022

Present: Commissioners Beth Shapiro, Dolly Haddad, Cayes Jarda, Laura Timmons, Dan Barry, Christine Rebstock, and Steven Kovach.

Members of the Public: Derek Cartagena, Ayanna Mckennon (Russell Library), Police Chief Erik Costa.

1. Call to Order. Chairperson Kovach called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes for the July 19, 2022 Regular Meeting of the LGBTQIA+ Commission.

MOTION: Commissioner Rebstock made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 19, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Shapiro seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 5:39 p.m.

3. Public Session on Agenda Items. None.


   A. Recap of Middletown Pride 2022 and ideas for Middletown Pride 2023. No discussion.

   B. Proposal Application Form for Middletown Pride 2023. Commissioner Haddad commented that the form had a required field for time/date of event. It was discussed if the field should be required as some events may not have set dates and could be finalized at a later date.

MOTION: Commissioner Haddad made a motion to recommend approval of the event application form, provided the field for time/date isn’t required to submit the form. Commissioner Barry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 5:45 p.m.

5. Old Business.

   A. Safety for LGBTQIA+ Community in Middletown (Commissioner Timmons). Commissioner Timmons reported they held a community discussion on August 1st. Commissioner Rebstock also attended. It was recommended to Commissioner Timmons that in the future if the commission could be given earlier notice (Use of Proposal Application Form), we could reach out to our networks to get better participation.
B. Update on Middletown Pride Initiatives.

1. Partnership with the Triangle Community Center (AGC Forte). No update.


3. Transgender and Intersex Panel (Russell Library, Commissioners Timmons, Rebstock and Jarda). Looking to hold panel potentially November 20. Proposal Application Form will be submitted before next meeting to continue discussion then.

4. Fall Movie Night Event (Russell Library). Ayanna McKennon reported that the Fall Movie Night might not happen this year. Commissioner Timmons suggested maybe partnering with Hartford Pride and New Haven Pride on a fall event. Commissioner's Rebstock and Timmons suggested commissioners should try to go and support other CT fall pride events and advertise Middletown Pride while there.


6. Adjournment.

MOTION: Commissioner Rebstock made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Shapiro seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously at 6:05 p.m.