

Chairperson
Aaron Richman



Members:

Lilian Chukwurah
Izaida Gonzalez
Robyn Kennedy
Edward G. Robinson
Elizabeth O'Callahan

Vice-chairperson
Cara Berg Powers

**City of Worcester
Human Rights Commission**

**Monthly Meeting Summary – Monday June 12th, 2017, 6pm
Worcester City Hall, Levi Lincoln Chamber, 455 Main St., Worcester, MA**

Members Present: Cara Berg Powers, Lilian Chukwurah, Izaida Gonzalez, Robyn Kennedy, Elizabeth O'Callahan, Aaron Richman, Edward G. Robinson

Staff Present: Jayna Turchek

1. Call to order and introductions at 6:08pm
2. **Approval of May 1st, 2017 meeting minutes.** Commissioner Berg Powers motioned to accept the minutes as written, Commissioner Robinson seconded and unanimously approved.

3. Old Business

A. Proposal for Critical Media Literacy training

Commissioner Berg Powers shared that the Office of Human Rights is working in partnership with the Coalition Against Bias and Hate to put on an educational forum, Reporting the Story: Responsible Journalism on Wednesday June 21st at 6pm at the Hanover Theatre. Director Turchek has flyers that were shared. Commissioner Berg Powers proposed that the media literacy training be held at the July 10th Commission meeting so that it can be advertised as a follow up to the forum. The training will cover bias and framing and the basics of media literacy as it relates to human rights.

4. New Business

- A. Notice for July 10th election of officers.** Chairperson Richman encouraged anyone interested in serving as the board's leadership to please consider the opportunity.



OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS & DISABILITIES, CITY HALL ROOM 101
455 MAIN ST., WORCESTER, MA 01608
TELEPHONE (508) 799-8486 | FAX (508) 799-1218



B. Draft annual report to the city manager. Will be discussed and reviewed at next meeting

C. Loving film screening and discussion after business meeting.

Chairperson Richman commented about the importance of the Loving story. Today is the actual anniversary of the United States Supreme Court decision fifty years ago. He shared some background about some of the decisions that came out of the Warren Court and Chief Justice Earl Warren. The idea that a state can tell you that something you want to do is illegal because of the color of your skin was the rule of the day and it took the United States Supreme Court to change it. The Loving case was a landmark case that has served to benefit subsequent marriage equality decisions. Commissioner Berg Powers spoke to the courage of the couple and what they sacrificed in order to make interracial marriage legal and for it to be something we take for granted today. Film screening took place after the meeting.

5. **Location of next meeting (July 10th, 2017, 6PM):** City Hall, Levi Lincoln Chamber
6. **Public comment (3 minutes per individual):** no public comment
7. **Adjournment at 6:25pm**