

Meeting of the Abington HRC: May 9, 2017

Present: Rosemary Jenkins, Joanne Kleiner, Amy McDonald, Shelley Rosenberg

Old Business:

Keswick Theatre:

Joanne reports that they have made the appropriate changes in their website to show how to get tickets for wheelchair accessible seating and companion tickets.

We will be providing a program for the staff, as requested, on June 13 at 6:00. Joanne and Shelley will facilitate the power point and Amy, Rosemary, and John will attend to become familiar with the program. Meet at the main entrance. They will let us know how many people they expect to attend.

New Business:

Brochure update: We made some substantive changes to the brochure, mostly by changing the example that dealt with an African-American couple trying to rent an apartment. We felt that the wording of the example was unrealistic, so changed it to a scenario that we believe is more subtle and, therefore, more likely to happen. Shelley will ask Ashley to email the pdf to Rosemary who will make the corrections and get it printed in color on good stock. We will put them by the elevator in the Township building, in the library, in other places in the Township, and use them for Night Out, and our speaking engagements.

Power Point update: We made many substantive changes to the Power Point, as well as cosmetic changes in the font, color, appearance of slides, and dynamics of how the slides “present.” Rosemary will put in all the changes and give it to John who knows how to do the dynamics (e.g., make bullet points “slide in”).

In addition to the changes in the actual slides, we will add “Talking Points,” so that each presenter will have, in writing, things to add to the presentation. The Talking Points that we have identified so far are:

- On Slide 2: We visit organizations, houses of worship, business. We’re hoping to educate people and are perfectly happy if there are no complaints. However, if you think you might have a complaint, we want to know about it. If you have a complaint that you’d prefer to take to the PHRC, we can help facilitate the process.
- Slide on protected classes: “Family status” means a family with a child or children under the age of 18 can’t be discriminated against because of having the children. “Age” means that people over the age of 40 can be discriminated against. “Disability” refers to the fact that the ADA has been law since Jan. 1991 and we are going to speak more about disabilities later in the program. “Sex” refers to Amendment 19 of the U.S. Constitution that says that the right to vote can’t be denied on account of sex, or gender. L
- Slide on Transition: Make the point that this is most often not “one and done.” It’s a process that is different for each person. Many trans people see their gender as fluid or on a spectrum. Many do certain aspects of transition and feel that is sufficient for

them; it satisfies their personal needs. In other cases, people might like to do more (e.g., surgery), but can't afford it.

- Slide on People First Language: Use of the word "retard": Still not unusual to hear someone say, "I'm such a retard." Or they may even use the word to refer to someone else.
- Slide on People First Language: Use of the word "handicapped": Explain the derivation: A person with a disability who is forced to beg, "cap in hand."

Future Meetings: Instead of the regular June meeting, we'll be at the Keswick Theatre. We'll see what we need to do about a July meeting. In August, we'll be at Abington Night Out on Monday, August 7.

Joanne will let the Township Office know of these changes to our schedule.