

**Town of West Hartford
Human Rights Commission
Mission Statement**

“The West Hartford Human Rights Commission fosters mutual understanding and respect among people, and encourages equality of treatment of all people, regardless of race, color, religious creed, sex, sexual orientation, civil union status, gender identity or expression, marital status, familial status, genetic information, age, economic status, lawful source of income, national origin or ancestry, or present or past history of physical, mental, intellectual or learning disability including, but not limited to blindness.”

**Town of West Hartford
Human Rights Commission
West Hartford Town Hall
7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 20, 2018
Room 400**

Minutes

Attendance

Krishna Adhikari	Present
Judith Borden	Present
Pramod Prahan, Administrative Liaison	Present
Sarah Raskin, Secretary	Present
Judith Wyman Kelly, Co-Chair	Present
Barry Walters, Co-Chair	Present

This was a special meeting entitled “Diversity in the Higher Education Space – Challenges & Opportunities and Problems & Solutions – A discussion with the University of Hartford.”

Members of the public who were present were:

Town of West Hartford

Shari Cantor, Mayor

Matt Hart, Town Manager

Daniel Coppinger, Acting Chief of Police

Robert McCue, Assistant Police Chief

University of Hartford

Molly Polk, Vice President for Marketing and Communication

John Carson, Vice President of University Relations

Christine Grant, Manager, Corporate and Community Relations

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Judy Kelly.

Representatives from the University of Hartford described ongoing and planned efforts to “affirm our commitment to confronting issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.” These are available on their website: Hartford.edu/uhart-unity

These efforts include an educational series; workshops for discussion and learning; a review of their current policies; creation of a committee to increase diversity among faculty and staff; bias training for staff; conversations about cultural competence; programming for first-year student; a standing committee on diversity, equity, and inclusion; a President's Community Advisory Council to build partnerships with the community; and a website to document these efforts.

There was a discussion of the relationship between the University and the Town and the role of the West Hartford police when it comes to incidents on the University of Hartford campus.

There was then a discussion of the best way to get the students who most need training to attend these kinds of sessions, a need for diversity among the campus safety officers, and the need for social media policy.

The meeting was concluded at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah A. Raskin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Sarah Raskin
March 1, 2018