



# Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
908-766-2510; [www.bernards.org](http://www.bernards.org)

---

## **Resolution #2020-0234**

### Establishing a Human Relations Advisory Committee

**WHEREAS**, in the United States of America, we are fortunate to live in a democratic society where checks and balances are created to ensure that all citizens receive equal protection of the laws; and

**WHEREAS**, Bernards Township wants to ensure that all citizens have the right to participate meaningfully and equally in self-government; and

**WHEREAS**, Bernards Township is a community composed of people with a wide variety of faiths, philosophies, backgrounds and lifestyles; and

**WHEREAS**, Bernards Township believes in the inherent dignity and worth of each human being and that our community can become stronger, more cohesive and more interesting by embracing its diversity, by recognizing and celebrating the differences amongst individuals, and capitalizing on the strengths resulting from these differences; and

**WHEREAS**, Bernards Township recognizes diversity works best when a community explores these differences in a safe, positive, and nurturing environment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Bernards Township Committee of the Township of Bernards, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey that the following be adopted:

1. The Township Committee hereby authorizes the establishment of a committee to be named the "Human Relations Advisory Committee" dedicated to fostering an atmosphere of understanding and acceptance of each individual so as to demonstrate that Bernards Township is a great place to live, work and grow providing residents a unique opportunity to recognize, appreciate and celebrate the many cultures that make up Bernards Township; and
2. The purpose and mission of the Human Relations Advisory Committee shall be as follows:
  - (a) To advise the Township Committee on ways to promote ethnic and cultural harmony among all Township residents;
  - (b) To advise on ways to encourage goodwill, cooperation, and conciliation among the multicultural and/or otherwise diverse residents of the Township;
  - (c) To recommend educational and cultural programs to foster unity and develop a sense of community; and
  - (d) Such other duties as may be agreed upon by the Human Relations Advisory Committee and approved by the Township Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the membership of the Human Relations Advisory Committee shall be limited to two Township Committee Liaisons, of differing political parties if possible, and seven members who shall serve for terms of three years; except that of the initial appointments, two members shall serve for a term of one year, two members shall serve for a term of two years and three members shall serve for a term of three years. Vacancies shall be filled for the balance of unexpired terms. Members shall serve without compensation and will, to the greatest extent possible, reflect the diversity of Bernards Township. Diversity shall be meant to include, but not limited to the following: race, ethnicity, persons of faith and non-believers, sexual orientation, sex gender identity, disability, socioeconomic status, cultural orientation, physical abilities, political beliefs, and national origin and status. Committee members shall include:

- (a) Police Chief or designee
- (b) Member of the clergy or designee
- (c) Superintendent or designee of the Bernards Township School District
- (d) Four members of the public, which may include one high school student

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards that the Bernards Township Human Relations Advisory Committee be established and be organized immediately upon its appointment by all members by the Township Committee.

Agenda and Date Voted: 06/23/2020

**CERTIFICATION**

**I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 06/23/2020.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Rhonda Pisano, Municipal Clerk**

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

The purpose of this Resolution is to establish a "Human Relations Advisory Committee" dedicated to fostering an atmosphere of understanding and acceptance of each individual so as to demonstrate that Bernards Township is a great place to live, work and grow providing residents a unique opportunity to recognize, appreciate and celebrate the many cultures that make up Bernards Township.