

ORDINANCE 2189

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2176
TITLED “BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS”
UNDER CHAPTER 17, ARTICLE VIII WITHIN THE BOROUGH CODE**

WHEREAS, South Plainfield is a wonderful place to live, work, and raise our families, in large part because of our wealth of diverse bodies, minds, and backgrounds.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield have determined that it is in the best interest of the Borough to create a Human Relations Committee of the Borough of South Plainfield;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that Chapter 17, Article VIII, “Human Relations Committee” Sections 17-45 and 17-46 the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield titled, shall be amended as follows:

17-45. Appointment.

For the initial year the Committee is established, appointments shall be made by the respective Commissions, Committees, groups and individuals as referenced in Section 17-44 by September 1 of each year to serve the remainder of the calendar year. For each year thereafter, appointments shall be made by February 15 of the calendar year. Upon each appointment being made, the person making such appointment shall notify the Borough Clerk of the appointment and provide the name and contact information to the Borough Clerk who shall maintain a record of same. No chair or President of a Committee shall appoint themselves as a member of the Human Relations Committee unless all members of the respected committee have declined to be appointed to the Human Relations Committee.

17-46. Powers and Duties. The Committee shall have the following powers and duties:

- A. To establish, amend, and supplement its own bylaws to the extent not inconsistent with this article nor with any other municipal, state or federal regulation or law. The Committee shall meet regularly and at a minimum of bi-monthly (every two months).
- B. To foster, through community effort, good will, cooperation and conciliation among the groups and elements of the inhabitants of this Borough, and to make recommendations to the Mayor and Council for programs of formal and informal education that will aid in eliminating all types of discrimination based upon race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, gender, sexual preference, marital status, or developmental, mental, or physical disabilities.
- C. To investigate, mediate and attempt to resolve without resort to the judicial system or other form of adjudication any allegations of unlawful discrimination by residents of the Borough.
- D. To make a written annual report in June of each year to the Mayor and Council detailing its activities for the previous year and to make presentations before the Mayor and Council at such time as the Council shall request.
- E. The Human Relations Committee shall advise the Mayor and Borough Council on ways to promote social and cultural harmony throughout the Borough. The Committee shall

propose educational and cultural programs to promote awareness and foster an inclusive sense of community within South Plainfield. It will also provide guidance to the Mayor and Council and other Borough Committees on ways to encourage kindness, cooperation, and unity among the multicultural residents of our town.

- F. The Committee is dedicated to cultivating an atmosphere of understanding and acceptance in South Plainfield that ensures residents and visitors of all backgrounds and circumstances can feel safe and welcome here.
- G. The Human Relations Committee shall be advisory in nature, it nor its members have the authority to contract, bind or act on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield. Its sole function is to assist the Mayor, Council, Committees, Boards, Agencies and Administration of the Borough of South Plainfield in matters provided for above in the Borough of South Plainfield.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.