

RESOLUTION NO. 2693

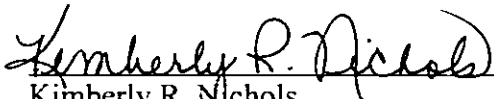
BE IT RESOLVED, by the City of Salisbury, Maryland that the following individual is appointed to the Human Rights Advisory Committee for the term ending as indicated.

Name
Reverend John Wright

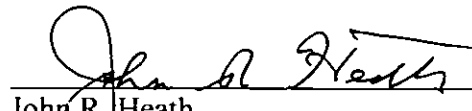
Term Ending
November 2020

THE ABOVE RESOLUTION was introduced and duly passed at a meeting of the Council of the City of Salisbury, Maryland held on November 14, 2016.

ATTEST:



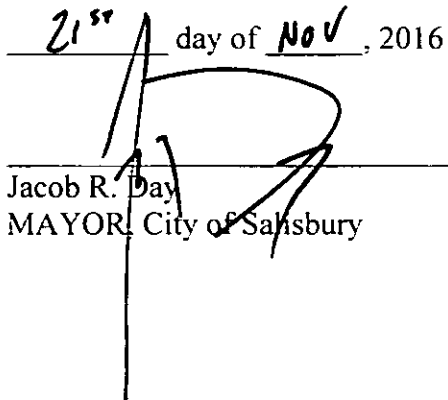
Kimberly R. Nichols
CITY CLERK



John R. Heath
PRESIDENT, City Council

APPROVED BY ME THIS

21st day of NOV, 2016



Jacob R. Day
MAYOR, City of Salisbury

INTER

OFFICE

MEMO

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

To: Tom Stevenson, City Administrator
From: Julia Glanz, Assistant City Administrator
Subject: Appointment to the Human Rights Advisory Committee
Date: October 19, 2016

Mayor Day would like to appoint the following person to the Human Rights Advisory Committee for the term ending as indicated.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Ending</u>
Reverend John Wright	November 2020

Attached you will find information from Reverend John Wright and the Resolution necessary for his appointment. Please forward this information to the City Council so it may be placed on their agenda for the next Council meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Attachment

cc: Mayor Day

Dear Mayor Day,

To begin, thank you so very much for meeting with the PALS group today. In the midst of what I am sure is a day filled with crises, you were very kind to take the time for that meeting. I can assure you that it meant a lot to those intrepid folks who have been members of PALS for so long that they felt heard.

As you suggested, this is an official letter to request that I be considered for a position on the newly forming Human Rights Committee.

I have been the Minister at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Salisbury for the past eight years. As you may know, Unitarian Universalists have been involved in social justice work from the very beginning of our denominational history. Ours was the first denomination to ordain women, and our first openly gay minister "came out" in 1968. PBS is currently showing a documentary about the work of 2 Unitarians who worked to save Jews during World War II. They are 2 of only 5 Americans named "Righteous Among the Nations" by the World Holocaust Remembrance Center in Jerusalem. Unitarians were the largest contingent of ministers to respond to Rev Martin Luther King's appeal to join him in Selma. Susan B Anthony, Dorothea Dix, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Henry Bergh (founder of the ASPCA) were all either Unitarians or Universalists (the 2 denominations merged in 1961). There were, and still are, a host of other Unitarian Universalists supporting human rights initiatives, including the Black Lives Matter.

Personally, I have been active with the Salisbury chapter of PFLAG (acting as Board Secretary), the LGBTQ Coalition of the Lower Shore, SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) and the Interfaith Alliance for Creation Stewardship (an interfaith group committed to environmental work). Each year our congregation holds a "National Coming Out Day" celebration (last year in collaboration with Faith Lutheran Church), a UN Sunday, and a Human Rights Sunday, as well as other social justice Sundays throughout the year. Additionally, as pointed out today at your meeting with PALS, I was the organizer for the first 2 years of the Peace in the Park event. I've also participated in immigration rights demonstrations in Arizona, and counter-protests both here in Salisbury and in Columbus, Ohio against the Westboro Baptist Church.

I believe in social justice, but more deeply, I believe that each person has the right to be treated fairly and that they should feel heard when they believe they are not.

Therefore, I hope you will consider me for a position on the human rights committee. Again, thank you so much for your time today.

If there are any other questions you might have, or if there is any further information I can provide, please feel free to contact me. My cell number is 410-726-1390, and my e-mail is either revjohn3449@gmail.com or minister@uufs.net.

With gratitude,
Rev John Wright
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Salisbury
2812 Old Ocean City Rd
Salisbury MD 21801