

**MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION
September 24, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bigbee called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Answering roll call were Commissioners Arseneault, Bigbee, Cashmore, Haeg, Harrington, Kingston, Lagerstrom, Stanton, Winnick and Staff Liaison Annie Johnson and Assistant City Manager Karen Kurt.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion was made by Commissioner Stanton to approve the meeting agenda of the September 24, 2013 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Arseneault.
Motion carried.

IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes-Regular Meeting of August 27, 2013

Motion was made by Commissioner Winnick to approve the consent agenda; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Arseneault.
Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Winnick to reconsider the adoption of minutes; the motion was adopted by Commissioner Kingston.
Motion carried.

Commissioner Winnick moved to amend the minutes and strike the following statement in the first paragraph of Section D: 'Commissioner Winnick reminded commissioners that the Human rights and Relations Commission's role is primarily advisory to the City Council.'; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Kingston.
Motion carried.

Jan Seidman arrived to the meeting at 7:15pm.

Commissioner Winnick moved to amend the minutes and strike the following statement in the first paragraph of Section D: 'The current Bias/Hate Response Plan is designed to deal with incidents involving adults, not juveniles.'; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Kingston.

Commissioner Cashmore called the question; motion carried.

Original motion to strike sentence carried.

Commissioner Winnick moved to amend the minutes and strike the following statement from paragraph two of Section D: 'and was directed towards their staff.'; motion was seconded by Commissioner Kingston.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Stanton moved to adopt the minutes as amended; motion was seconded by Commissioner Cashmore.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Stanton suggested that the Commission remove the Minutes from the Consent Agenda and have them as a separate item.

V. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STUDENT COMMISSIONERS

Chair Bigbee invited the student commissioners to introduce themselves, why they were in attendance, and their hope for the next year; Commissioners Haeg and Harrington provided brief introductions. Commissioners Seidman and Winnick welcomed the students. Chair Bigbee mentioned that former Student Commissioner Daria has decided to become a Human Rights attorney.

VI. COMMUNITY COMMENT

There were no community comments.

VII. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Homeward Bound Theater

Bruce and Donna Kirkpatrick introduced Homeward Bound Theater to the Commission and passed out information. The theater specializes in prevention plays in schools for kids and the community, in the 7 state area, and has been doing so since 1995. Student actors perform the plays for other students, and then do Q&A after the performance. 'Harsh Reality' is another high school anti-bullying play. 'Higher Ground' was written by a teacher to address bullying in middle school. The Kirkpatrick's are interested in having the HRRC sponsor a performance of the play in the evening at a local venue. Mr. Kirkpatrick will connect with the Edina Schools, specifically the principal of the Middle School, and will give an update to the Commission. The production would cost \$1500.00.

B. Adjust work plan for balance of 2013, as necessary

Community Outreach Working Group will be meeting within a week to determine how to move forward. Chief Long will be contacted regarding a member of his department for the group.

Domestic Violence initiative had been taken off the agenda earlier in the year and would not be pursued.

2013 Days of Remembrance event had been cut due to budgeting. Channel 16 videos did run throughout the month, and there were displays in City Hall.

Quasquicentennial initiative is ongoing and will be purchasing a timeline in preparation for the December 12 event at City Hall. The timeline would feature a history of Edina's settlement related to groups that had encountered discrimination. The item had been budgeted; no vote was needed.

Commissioners asked that the diversity film festival be removed from the work plan and replaced with the Edina Reads project under the Anti-Bullying initiative.

- C. Draft plan and presentation for November annual televised meeting
The November 2013 HRRC meeting will be a regular business meeting that is televised and run on Channel 16. The HRRC also covers highlights of their work during the last year at this meeting with a PowerPoint presentation. Staff will send a draft of the PowerPoint out to the Commission before next month's meeting. Information to highlight includes the new Days of Remembrance video, a teaser shot of the Quasquicentennial banner, the Henry the Bully Edina Reads event info, a call for volunteers for the Outreach Working Group, and updates on Immigration Reform, and Marriage Equality. The Student Commissioners will research if there has been any impact on the City's purchasing by the adoption of the Conflict-Free Minerals Resolution; if yes, than this will also be included in the PowerPoint. Chair Bigbee recorded volunteer names of Commissioners to speak about each topic and will work with Staff to prepare this information for the October meeting.
- D. Youth Well-Being Project and Time to THRIVE Conference update
Chair Bigbee provided an update on the Youth Well-Being Project and Time to THRIVE Conference from the Human Rights Campaign Update. A Teaching Tolerance edition recently came out from the Southern Poverty Law Journal.
- E. Edina Reads Books
Chair Bigbee reported that 14 of the original 50 copies were returned to staff.
- F. Living Streets Advisory Committee
Chair Bigbee attended the first Living Streets Advisory Committee meeting and provided an update. He reported that Hennepin County has also embraced Living Streets.
- G. 2014 Budget Request
Commissioner Lagerstrom provided additional information about a 2014 Edina Reads event for students in grades 1-6 on September 30, 2014. Any leftover books could be donated to local childcare centers.

Commissioner Lagerstrom moved to approve the Edina Reads Anti-Bullying Event featuring 'Henry the Bully' by Nancy Carlson and the purchase of 75 books;
Commissioner Winnick seconded the motion.
Motion carried.
- H. Immigration Reform
The resolution adopted by HRRC will be on the next Council Meeting Agenda as an Advisory Communication. Commissioner Stanton and Chair Bigbee will work with staff to draft a cover memo.
- I. Questions for City Departments (follow up from Southview Incident)
Commissioner Winnick provided an update to the Commission. The Mayor directed HRRC to work further on this issue in a press release published in the Edina SunCurrent. Commissioner Winnick and Chair Bigbee will be meeting with leaders from Police, Fire, Pubic Works, Parks, and Administration Departments to discuss forms and reporting, and will determine if there should be further communication; the commissioners will

provide draft questions to the Commission to review in October, and ultimately a report to the HRRC and Manager Neal on findings.

- J. General Work Plan Updates/Updates from Teams.
Teams provided updates during 2013 work plan review.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS
Included in the packet.

IX. CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS
Commissioner Kingston will be out until the January, 2014 meeting.

Commissioner Kingston reported that the 'Real Abilities' Disabilities Film Festival was happening in the Twin Cities this year. Commissioners Harrington and Haeg will look into possible promotion of the event with support from Commissioner Winnick.

Commissioner Arseneault reported that the Human Services Task Force had ten proposals and two new groups. Their first meeting is Wednesday, October 2, 2013.

X. STAFF COMMENTS
None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business on the Commission Agenda, the meeting was adjourned.

Chair Bigbee declared the meeting adjourned at 9:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Johnson, HRRC Staff Liaison

Minutes approved by HRRC, October 22, 2013

Arnie Bigbee, HRRC Chair