

EDINA HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2004

7:00 PM – COMMUNITY ROOM

Members Present

Mary Brindle

Jim Campbell

Betsy Flaten

Amy Frankfurt

Janice Joshua

Sharon Ming

Andy Otness

Wayne Prochniak

Members Absent

Carol Carmichiel

Idelle Longman

Mel Ogurak

Eileen Supple

Staff

Susan Heiberg

Visitor

Alison Kinison

Approval of Minutes

The Commission minutes of September 28, 2004, were amended in the Bullying Subcommittee paragraph as follows: "...a bullying survey that was distributed at a local middle school." "The bus was commonly mentioned as a place where students did not feel safe." "...the School's Chemical/Mental Health Coordinator..." "A next step might be to connect..." Mary Brindle seconded Wayne Prochniak's motion to approve the minutes of September 28, 2004, as amended; the motion carried.

Bullying Subcommittee

Betsy Flaten reported that materials are being collected in order to study best practices. Regarding the issue of bullying, it is the Commission's responsibility to work with the community to reiterate the notion that consistency with adults is important. The League of Women Voters could take this on as a study. The State Legislature can provide information regarding what programs school districts should have in place. The Commission and the schools need a common definition of bullying, as well as an awareness of strategies and objectives. Chace Anderson, Assistant Superintendent, will be invited to the December Commission meeting to discuss ways to work together and to create a response to situations when they occur. The subcommittee will present a power point at this meeting.

Human Rights Award

Mary Brindle and the committee—Wayne Prochniak, Janice Joshua and Idelle Longman—shared a format used by Fargo in a presentation of a human rights award. It consisted of a press release and a nominations form, and criteria would need to be included as well. The goal would be to present this award at Volunteer Recognition in the spring. Other cities will be contacted to see their ways of presentation.

Request for Funding Form

Mary Brindle presented the draft of an HRRC Request for Human Services Funding. She explained that it is a roadmap application giving everything that is needed. It is important to look at the main objective—how our community is served. A breakdown from other governmental organizations could be included, as

well as complete financial documents rather than just specific forms. It is important that there be clarity in budget year requests.

Commission Brochure

Janice Joshua reviewed the revised Commission brochure. It will be redone by Mary Brindle and presented at the November Commission meeting.

Senior Commission

Mary Brindle reported that there is a need for an organization to provide leadership for seniors within the community. She and Eileen Supple recently met with Council Member Hovland—soon to be Mayor-Elect—and he indicated that he would be studying future issues regarding seniors and neighborhoods. The vision for a senior commission needs to be defined.

Affordable Housing Task Force

Sharon Ming presented the list of representatives for the newly-created Edina Affordable Housing Task Force and the agenda for its first meeting on November 9th. Gordon Hughes has been invited to welcome the group.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Flaten, Chair
Edina Human Rights & Relations Commission

BF/sh