

EDINA HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2005
7:00 PM – MAYOR’S CONFERENCE ROOM

Members Present

Mary Brindle
Jim Campbell
Carol Carmichiel
Betsy Flaten
Amy Frankfurt
Idelle Longman
Debby McNeil
Andy Otness
Wayne Prochniak

Members Absent

John Goetz
Sharon Ming
Andy Otness
Eileen Supple

Student

Jennifer Watkins

Staff

Susan Heiberg

Approval of Minutes

Member McNeil seconded the motion of Member Brindle to approve the minutes of August 8, 2005; the motion carried.

Member Campbell seconded the motion of Member Flaten to approve the minutes of September 27, 2005; the motion carried.

Member McNeil seconded the motion of Member Longman to approve the minutes of October 25, 2005, as amended; the motion carried.

Annual Award Committee

Member Brindle reported on behalf of the Annual Award Committee:

- Publicity has to be planned very soon.
- The School District, Community Library and About Business could be tools for publicity.
- What would the award be?
- Member Brindle will speak with the City Manager regarding communication and the venue for the presentation.
- Member Longman will assist in this endeavor.

Anti-Bullying Committee

Members Flaten, Frankfurt and Longman reported that they met to review and evaluate the dialogue with Dr. Lakanwal held in October.

- Member Flaten will pursue the topic “harassment versus bullying.”
- Member Longman will pursue the issue of “internet bullying.”
- James Backstrom, Dakota County attorney, could be invited to a town forum regarding the issue of bullying in schools. Member Longman will invite him to an HRRC meeting to discuss a community-wide forum.
- The Commission will share its ideas with the School District in order to avoid interference with other programs.
- Member Frankfurt will talk to Kathy Iverson and Janet Schank regarding chemical and mental health issues. Perhaps they could attend the Commission meeting with Mr. Backstrom.
- Member Frankfurt encouraged the Commissioners to review the SHHSC Demographics Study. Specifically, areas of diversity and disability in Edina could be investigated.

CDBG Committee

Members Flaten, Ming and Otness will meet with Joyce Repya in December to discuss the CDBG process and applications.

- What is the intention for the money budgeted for CDBG?
- The Commissioners agreed that their participation in the process needs to be clearly defined and that expectations need to be met with clear understanding and responsible action.

Commission Projects

- Doug Mayo, Chair of the Housing Task Force, will present an update to the Commission at the December meeting.
- Member Brindle will contact the Chamber of Commerce regarding new information about the workforce in Edina.
- Connecting With Kids will be sponsoring an Essay Contest in May. Could the Commission support this?
- Jennifer Watkins will connect with the School's Multi-Cultural Club to see if there is an interest in an event collaboration.

Nominating Committee

Member Longman reported that the Committee will have a slate of officers for the February Commission meeting. There will be a need for new Commissioners with the outgoing of Members Flaten and Supple.

Youth Sports Task Force

Member Brindle explained that she has been appointed to the recently-created Edina Youth Sports Task Force. The following questions were raised in the community:

- Are the athletic associations serving the public good?
- Is there a need for a separate board to watch over the allocation of assets to make the facilities available for the public as well as for the teams?
- A total of 35 issues were raised in October. The Task Force will prepare to go out to the public with a question to be asked and answers to be collected.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Prochniak, Chair
Edina Human Rights & Relations Commission

WP/sh