

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

Members Present

Mary Brindle
Jim Campbell
Carol Carmichiel
Amy Frankfurt
John Goetz
Idelle Longman
Debby McNeil
Sharon Ming
Andy Otness
Wayne Prochniak
Eileen Supple

Members Absent

Betsy Flaten

Student

Jennifer Watkins

Staff

Susan Heiberg

The new Commissioners—John Goetz and Debby McNeil—were introduced and welcomed.

Approval of Minutes

Mary Brindle seconded Eileen Supple’s motion to approve the Commission minutes of January 25, 2005; the motion carried.

Commission Strategic Plan

Eileen Supple presented the draft strategic plan that contains earlier material—Mission, Beliefs and Parameters. Suggested additions or changes to the existing verbiage were reviewed and discussed. Goals and Strategies are broadly defined in order to help identify potential projects such as community dialogues on diversity and also to look at hosting meetings with groups such as the League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions. Another draft of the strategic plan will be undertaken for further review and study.

Work Plan

Eileen presented the Annual Events Calendar that lays out the Commission’s regularly scheduled activities during the calendar year. It was suggested that at the beginning of each year the Commissioners update a list of community groups they represent and include activity reports, and that it should be started now. It was agreed that a connection with the Edina Community Council (ECC) and the Resource Center needs to be strengthened and maintained and that the Chair of the ECC and Val Burke be invited to the May Commission meeting. At regular Commission meetings, updates of various groups should be included on the agenda, such as Edina Chemical Health Partners, Edina Community Council, Affordable Housing Task Force, School District Diversity Council, Connecting With Kids, and RPC. Ideas for recognition at the annual volunteer event at Edinborough Park

should be discussed at the February meeting, and the review of the Bias/Hate Crime Response Plan reviewed in October.

Volunteer Recognition Reception

Carol Carmichiel and Jim Campbell will research the Commission's participation in the City's Annual Volunteer Recognition Reception on April 14th at Edinborough Park. Betsy Flaten had recommended an Americorp Fellow at the High School and/or School District Administration for their Hate and Bias Crimes Rapid Response Guide. A recommendation will be on the March 22nd agenda.

Human Services Funding

The Commission agreed to keep the same schedule regarding the 2005 process for the funding of human services in 2006. Therefore, RFP's will be sent out in early May, received in early June for distribution and study, discussed at the June Commission, heard in July and prepared in a draft proposal for the City Council's hearing in the fall.

Human Rights and Relations Award

Discussion regarding the creation of a process and the presenting of a Human Rights & Relations Award will be tabled until the next Commission meeting.

Joint Meetings

It was suggested that three Commissioners connect with the School Board to discuss the possibility of a joint meeting. Additionally, the Executive Committee—Wayne Prochniak, Eileen Supple and Mary Brindle—will connect with the City Council for the same reason.

New Business

- Feedback on term limits for advisory groups are due back to Gordon Hughes by March 15th.
- Should there be a liaison from HRRC to Connecting With Kids?
- 4th of July Parade will feature intergenerational elements, including participation by the four Mayors. The inclusion of participants from CommonBond Communities was suggested.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Prochniak, Chair
Edina Human Rights & Relations Commission

WP/sh