

EDINA HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION  
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006  
7:00 PM - MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM

Members Present

Mary Brindle  
Amy Frankfurt  
Idelle Longman  
Debby McNeil  
Sharon Ming  
Wayne Prochniak

Members Absent

Jim Campbell  
John Goetz  
Dan Rasmus  
Andy Otness

Student

Jennifer Watkins

Minutes of February 28, 2006

Due to lack of a quorum, the Commission minutes of February 28, 2006, could not be formally approved. Therefore, it will be included with this set of minutes for approval at the next Commission meeting.

Dr. Dragseth and the New Superintendent

A letter will be composed to the School Superintendent, Dr. Ken Dragseth, before he retires from the District. On behalf of the Commission, he will be thanked for his years of leadership with the hope that his predecessor will continue the strong partnership forged with the Commissioners. Member Longman will connect with Dr. Dragseth to see about arranging a meeting with the new Superintendent. It will be helpful to ask Dr. Dragseth what value he sees in HRRC working with the School District.

Annual Award and the Volunteer Recognition Reception

At Volunteer Recognition on April 24<sup>th</sup> at Edinborough Park, the Commission will present the first Tom Oye Human Rights Award to Mary Ellingen. The Commission will also have the opportunity to recognize the three retirees—Members Carmichiel, Flaten and Supple—and to thank the Commission's student representative, Jennifer Watkins.

Housing Task Force

Member Ming reported that the community kickoff will be on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, entitled "Community Conversation about Housing in Edina". It will be held at St. Patrick's Church at 7:00 PM, and the Task Force will provide a presentation and facilitate roundtable discussions—encouraging guests to participate by asking questions, sharing comments and voicing concerns.

Human Services Funding Process

The process for soliciting proposals for 2007 human services funding was reviewed and discussed. The following Tuesdays were identified:

- May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Providers are assigned to Commissioners for connection and follow-up.
- June 27<sup>th</sup> - Commissioners review and discuss all the proposals.
- July 18<sup>th</sup> - Providers attend the formal hearing.
- July 25<sup>th</sup> - Commissioners draft a 2007 human services budget to present at a hearing with the City Council.
- City Council hearing date to be announced.

### Essay Contest

Member Longman provided a list of topics collected by the State Department of Human Rights Commissions for a community essay contest. The Commission determined that no action needs to be taken at this time. There might be an opportunity to combine this event with Edina Reads.

### Elders' Wisdom, Children's Song

Member Ming reported that she was one of four "adopted elders" from the community to participate in a program with 5<sup>th</sup>-grade Countryside students combining the collection of oral history with the teaching of song-writing and poetry. Member Ming told her story to them, and, as a result, the students were inspired to create a song about her, which was presented at a program on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Countryside had been chosen to participate in this project—sponsored by WMEP—along with six other elementary schools within the west metro area.

### Edina Chemical Health Partners (ECHP)

With Member Flaten having retired from the Commission, there is now an HRRC opening on ECHP. The meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 AM at Davanni's. Commissioners were encouraged to visit the meetings.

### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Brindle, Chair  
Edina Human Rights & Relations Commission

MB/sh