

HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION  
TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2007  
7:00 PM - MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM

Members Present

Luis Bartolomei  
Mary Brindle  
Emery Erickson  
Idelle Longman  
JoAnn McGuire  
Lindah Mhando  
Sharon Ming  
Andy Otness  
Wayne Prochniak  
Sarah Ratner

Members Absent

Debby McNeil

Student

Hamdi Yusuf

Guest

Val Burke

Staff

Susan Heiberg

Val Burke, Coordinator of the Edina Resource Center, was introduced and welcomed. For 2008, she is proposing a three-percent increase for the City's funding of the Resource Center which would amount to \$36,113. The mission of the Resource Center is to be a catalyst for Edina community efforts to strengthen individuals and families. In its new location on the first floor of the Community Center, it shares space with the Welcome Center and helps with registration for classes and activities. Approximately 150 people per week come into the Resource Center, where they are empowered to connect with resources. The Community Council, overseeing the operations of the Resource Center, is comprised of representatives from the City, the School District, CAPSH, Hennepin County and Public Health. The Council and the Commission are similar regarding needs assessments, and the Council acts as the steering committee for the Edina Family Services Collaborative. There is a growing need to be aware of multi-cultural and transportation services, and the Resource Center strives to provide information and connect people to the necessary and appropriate resources. Down the road, the Council hopes to be able to budget for a professional updated needs assessment and a provider study. Building up and strengthening neighborhood relationships is being considered as a collaborative effort with the City's In-Touch Program.

Approval of Minutes

Member Otness seconded Member Prochniak's motion to approve the Commission minutes of May 22, 2007; the motion carried.

Resolution Regarding Atrocity Crimes

With the resolution prepared and ready for presentation, the Commission agreed that Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, would be the date to bring it to the City Council Meeting for approval. At least one of the Commissioners should be in attendance to represent the Commission and to answer questions.

League of Minnesota Human Rights Commission's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

Member Longman handed out registration materials for the League's Conference on September 29<sup>th</sup> to be held at the Grand Casino Convention Center. The Commissioners

were encouraged to attend. The keynote speaker will be Morris Dees, the chief trial counsel for the Southern Poverty Law Center. The theme of the conference will be "Human Rights, Civil Rights and Treaty Rights: Minnesota Challenges."

#### Human Services Funding

The following assignments were made regarding connection and follow-up with the providers and their proposals for 2008 human services funding:

- Senior Community Services - Member Otness
- Cornerstone - Chair Brindle
- Chrysalis - Member McGuire
- Women in Transition - Members Prochniak and Ratner
- VEAP - Member Erickson
- The Bridge - Member Longman
- Minneapolis Mediation Program - Members Bartolomei and Mhando
- Normandale Center - Member Ming
- Store-to-Door - Chair Brindle and Student Member Yusuf

With a proposed three percent increase over 2007 funding, the projected amount for 2008 would be \$88,940. The Commissioners reviewed each proposal, and specific questions raised will be transmitted to the providers by the assigned Commissioners for responses by Tuesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, so that there will be clarity at the hearing on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### Senior Expo

It was announced that the second Senior Expo is being planned and will be held on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 AM to noon at Colonial Church. Fifty to 60 vendors are anticipated.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Brindle, Chair  
Edina Human Rights & Relations Commission

MB/sh