

**EDINA HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2008
7:00 PM – MAYOR’S CONFERENCE ROOM**

Members Present

Luis Bartolomei
Mary Brindle
Emery Erickson
Colleen Feige
JoAnn McGuire
Andy Otness
Russell Stanton

Members Absent

Idelle Longman
Lindah Mhando
Wayne Prochniak
Sarah Ratner
Hamdi Yusuf

Staff

Susan Heiberg

New Members Introduced and Welcomed

Colleen Feige, a School Board appointee, and Russell Stanton, a City Council appointee, were introduced to the Commission and welcomed.

Minutes Approved

Member Otness seconded the motion of Member Erickson to approve the minutes of January 22, 2008; the motion carried.

CDBG Budget Approved

At the City Council meeting of February 19, 2008, the following human services portion of the CDBG budget was presented by the Planning staff and was approved:

JVS Career Development	\$2,720
H.O.M.E.	\$9,179
C.A.P.S.H.	\$3,462
HomeLine	\$ 988
School Readiness	<u>\$7,494</u>
TOTAL	\$23,843

It was noted that the Commission had approved a CDBG budget at the January meeting in the amount of \$24,101 before the County’s budget had been made certain. Therefore, the Commissioners agreed to a pro rata distribution if the County’s budgeted amount varied, which it did.

Human Rights Award Reviewed

As of this date, only one nomination has been received for the annual Tom Oye Human Rights Award. Other possible candidates were discussed, and it was suggested by Member Feige that only one Human Rights Award be given each year. This award is given by the Commission at the Volunteer Recognition Reception on April 22nd. If the Commissioners want to honor another person as well, they can do so as Commission recognition at this event.

The following sub-committee was selected to bring a recommendation for the Human Rights Award recipient to the Commission meeting in March: Members Brindle, McGuire and Otness.

A Resolution Approved Guarding Against Complicit Business with the Government of Sudan

The Commission reviewed the resolution which had originally been introduced by Ellen Kennedy for the City's willingness to continually scrutinize a targeted list of companies with complicit involvement with Sudan's government. The resolution indicates that the City does not now own any investments in these scrutinized companies and if any investment held by the City is later identified as a scrutinized company that it will be sold at the earliest convenience.

Member Feige seconded the motion of Member Otness to bring this resolution before the Mayor and Council at their meeting on March 18, 2008; the motion carried.

Commission Brochure Discussed

Members Brindle and McGuire offered an idea to present a calendar template for the elementary schools for their own creation. The calendars would complement a Commission brochure with originality from the students and would be a good public relations tool. Member Feige explained that the school calendar was already "out there." The Commissioners did agree that it would be a good idea to have some way to connect with the schools. The brochure in itself needs to get information out to Edinans by sharing how many great resources are available to them.

Bias/Hate Crime Brochure

Member Brindle offered to update the Bias/Hate Crime Brochure for new printing.

Strategic Planning Process Reviewed

The need for a sound strategic planning process was addressed, and the Commissioners reiterated the desire to move in this direction. It was noted in the plan currently in place that the word "projects" really referred to "work plan." With a work plan, there needs to be a process to identify new projects. The Executive Committee will review the current Strategic Plan and bring it back to the full Commission.

Edina Unplugged Announced

To help promote family time, Edina Unplugged will collaborate with the City of Edina, Edina Public Schools, the faith community and the business community to ensure that no activities are schedule on the designated night—Monday, March 10th. It is hoped that the Edina Community will stand united and do nothing—no homework, no working late and no busy agendas. It is a time to reconnect with family members.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Luis Bartolomei, Chair
Edina Human Rights & Relations Commission