

EDINA HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION
TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2008
8:00 PM - EDINBOROUGH PARK AMPHITHEATER

Members Present

Luis Bartolomei
Peter Brauer
Mary Brindle
Emery Erickson
Idelle Longman
JoAnn McGuire
Andy Otness
Wayne Prochniak
Russell Stanton

Member Absent

Colleen Feige

Staff

Susan Heiberg

Recipient of Tom Oye Human Rights Award Congratulated

After the finale of the Volunteer Recognition Reception, the Commissioners moved to the Amphitheater of Edinborough Park to begin the meeting. It was an honor for them to be visited by the recipient of this year's Human Rights Award—Debby McNeil—a recently-retired Commission member. She expressed appreciation for the honor and received congratulations and well wishes from all.

New Member Introduced and Welcomed

Peter Brauer, a recent School-Board appointee, was introduced and welcomed by the Commission, and introductions were made all around.

Minutes Approved

Member Longman's seconded Member Brindle's motion to approve the minutes of March 25, 2008; the motion carried.

Bias/Hate Crime Response Plan and Brochure

As a result of the last Commission meeting, the Plan was edited and the contact names were updated. The draft for a brochure was sent to the City's Communications Director who will forward a sample back for the Commissioners' consideration. Locations discussed for the distribution of the new brochures included the Chamber of Commerce, the Library, the schools, Senior Center, Welcome Packets, Resource Center, apartment buildings, and Police officers' vehicles. The Police Chief would be a welcome guest at a future Commission meeting.

Strategic Planning Set to Begin

Chair Bartolomei extended an invitation to Commissioners to meet at his home in the near future to carve out the framework for an updated strategic plan for the Commission.

Local Amnesty International Event Discussed

Member Brindle reminded the Commissioners that high school senior, Catherine Elliott, was planning a special concert on behalf of Amnesty International at Centennial Lakes on May 22nd from 5 to 9 PM. Anything the Commission could do to help publicize or participate would be appreciated. Proceeds from the event will support the Genocide Intervention Network. An e-mail will be sent for signing up to work at an HRRC table, with the new Bias/Hate Crime brochures as handouts.

Joint Meeting with Community Council Proposed

Because of mission similarities between HRRC and the Edina Community Council, Member Brindle suggested a joint meeting on September 16th at 7:30 AM at the Community Center. Two small groups—one from each body—could get together to plan this meeting. The HRRC group will be Members Brindle and Brauer and the staff liaison, Susan Heiberg.

Upcoming RPC Planning Meeting Announced

Member Erickson reported that he would be meeting with Sharon Ming, Val Burke and Deborah Paone on April 28th to discuss plans for kicking off an invitational meeting for this year's RPC project—creating the Partners in Care model with replication materials for other organizations.

Human Services Funding Process Discussed

At the beginning of May, requests for proposals for 2009 funding are sent out to providers currently being funded by the City. The proposals are to be returned during the first week of June. Val Burke and Joyce Repya will be contacted to learn of any additional providers to include in the process. The Sun Current and the HRRC website will get the word out as well.

League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions (LMHRC) Updated

Member Longman reported that Dr. Ellen Kennedy will be on the agenda at the next meeting of the LMHRC in May. At this meeting, the results of the Essay Contest will be announced.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Luis Bartolomei, Chair
Edina Human Rights & Relations Commission

LB/sh