

EDINA HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010
7:00 PM – MAYOR’S CONFERENCE ROOM

Members Present

Arnie Bigbee
John Cashmore
Lisa Finsness
Jessi Kingston
Bob Mayer
Dee Moore
Meg Newell
Russ Stanton

Members Absent

Shara Mohtadi
Emma Weisberg

Staff

Susan Howl

Minutes Approved

Member Cashmore seconded the motion of Member Stanton to approve the minutes of April 27, 2010; the motion carried.

Work Plan Committee Reports Given

- **Administration:** Member Mayer has assumed the task of reviewing the scope of the Commission.
- **Bias/Hate Crime Response Plan:** Members Bigbee and Moore presented a handout with a timeline moving to the approval of a revised plan by the City Council in September and presenting the plan to the community thereafter. Members Bigbee and Moore will meet with the Police Chief, Jeff Long, with the following questions: How are officers trained? How are bias/hate crimes determined? What services does the Police Department use? When is the media used?
The importance of connecting with the School District and the State was emphasized.
- **Demographics:** Member Stanton reported that the census will provide the means to partner with other organizations, using demographics to identify needs. The census data will not be ready until the end of the year and will definitely be a key element for future strategic planning.
- **Visibility:** Members Finsness and Newell asked the question: “Do people in the community ‘see/know about’ HRRC?” Spring was a productive time—the STAND dinner at the High School cultural fair, Volunteer Recognition, and the Tom Oye Human Rights Awards. It was recommended that the City put together an article for the Sun Current highlighting the purpose of the Award and its recipients. The City’s 4th of July Parade would be an excellent way to highlight the Commission and pass out information.
It was suggested that the Visibility Team have a meeting with Patrick Duffy and Rachael Pream-Grenier of the School District to consider ideas such as forming a volunteer group for tutoring.

Domestic Partnership Ordinance Discussed

- Revisions have been received in preparation of Second Reading on June 1st.
- The City’s Personnel Policy needs to cover the death of a partner and the pension.
- Chair Bigbee will draft a letter to Phil Duran, thanking him for his excellent work in guiding the Commission toward the successful outcome.

STAND Event Cancelled

Due to bad weather, the STAND event at Lake Harriet was cancelled. It is hoped that it can be rescheduled sometime this summer.

Funding Process Reviewed

Member Cashmore seconded the motion of Chair Bigbee to approve the following process for 2011 human services funding:

- The hearing for the providers will be on Tuesday, June 22nd.
- Member Finsness will prepare a template to help Commissioners organize their thoughts.
- Twenty minutes will be allowed for each provider to share information about the current year and for Commissioners to ask questions.
- A complete packet of all the RFPs will be picked up by each Commissioner at City Hall the week of June 7th.

The motion carried.

Operations of the Edina Community Council Shared

Member Finsness distributed information providing the Community Council's mission statement and responsibilities. As a part of the planning for the upcoming year (September-May), the Council has invited HRRC to make a presentation at a meeting in the fall. Member Finsness also distributed census information for Edina.

Workshop Information Updated

Member Kingston has applied to host a workshop on the Domestic Partnership Ordinance at the December conference of the LMHRC in St. Paul. Chair Bigbee indicated that he might also apply to host another workshop around the topic of "structuring a commission."

Roseville Forum to be Updated

Due to time constraints, Member Moore will report on the events that took place at the recent Roseville Forum at the next Commission meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

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

Respectfully submitted,

Arnie Bigbee, Chair
Edina Human Rights & Relations Commission

AB/sh