

**MINUTES  
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
EDINA HUMAN RIGHTS & RELATIONS COMMISSION  
AUGUST 23, 2011  
7:03 PM**

***I. CALL TO ORDER***

Chair Kingston called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

***II. ROLL CALL***

Answering rollcall were Commissioners Bigbee, Finsness, Kingston, Mayer, Stanton and Winnick. Guests present were Sue Plaster and Dan Heilman.

***III. MEETING AGENDA APPROVED***

**Motion by Commissioner Stanton and seconded by Commissioner Winnick approving the meeting agenda with the following additions: VI. D. Fred Baron Appreciation and VI. E. Edina Community Council Representative.**

Ayes: Bigbee, Finsness, Kingston, Mayer, Stanton and Winnick  
Motion carried.

***IV. CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTED***

**Motion by Commissioner Cashmore and seconded by Commissioner Winnick approving the consent agenda as follows:**

**IV.A. Approve regular meeting minutes of July 26, 2011, correcting Chair Kingston as "present" in the rollcall.**

Ayes: Bigbee, Finsness, Kingston, Mayer, Stanton and Winnick  
Motion carried.

***V. COMMUNITY COMMENT***

Two visitors were welcomed: Sue Plaster, a member of the community who is interested in diversity and intercultural communications; and Dan Heilman, a reporter from Edina Patch.

***VI. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS***

***VI.A. 2012 WORK PLAN REVIEWED***

Commissioner Mayer reported that the Administration Committee has the responsibility of presenting a preliminary work plan for the upcoming year.

- It was agreed that a census update of demographic information would be helpful and that it should be added to the Commission's Initiatives.
- At the October meeting, the Commission will focus on the initiatives and discuss evident/emerging issues in the community.
- A mid-year review of the initiatives in May was recommended.
- Daryl Coppoletti of the Hennepin South Services Collaborative will be invited to a Commission meeting to discuss the research and planning of human services and how the Commission could get started considering a demographics project.
- It was recommended that the Commissioners always bring the current Work Plan to each meeting as a resource in looking ahead to next year's Work Plan.

**Motion by Commissioner Mayer and seconded by Commissioner Finsness to approve the 2012 Work Plan with the aforementioned additions.**

Ayes: Bigbee, Finsness, Kingston, Mayer, Stanton and Winnick  
Motion carried.

***VI.B. VIDEO-TAPED HRRC MEETING DISCUSSED***

The Commissioners agreed that Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, would be the video-taped meeting to be held in the Council Chambers of City Hall. It will be an opportunity to share with the community what is working and what the Commission does. Items for the agenda include: the bullying initiative, the Holocaust Day of

Remembrance, the Bias/Hate Crime Response Plan, the Tom Oye Human Rights Award, Domestic Partnerships and the human services function. The Commissioners were encouraged to visit the City's website and observe other taped commission meetings. This will be discussed further at the September meeting.

**VI.C. AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup> LMHRC MEETING DETAILS SHARED**

Commissioner Bigbee shared the reminder that the Board of the League of Human Rights Commissions will be holding its next meeting at the Southdale Library on August 27<sup>th</sup> from noon to 3 PM. He reported that a number of committees were now being formed and encouraged the Commissioners to attend the meeting and consider getting on board. He indicated that he is currently the Chair of the League's Public Policy Committee.

**VI.D. RECOGNITION FOR FRED BARON APPROVED**

The Commissioners discussed ways to recognize Fred Baron, a Holocaust survivor, who shared his story at the Days of Remembrance event last May.

**Motion by Commissioner Bigbee and seconded by Commissioner Stanton to send Mr. Baron the two Edina history books along with a note of appreciation signed by Chair Kingston and Mayor Hovland.**

Ayes: Bigbee, Kingston, Mayer, Stanton and Winnick  
Abstain: Finsness  
Motion carried.

**VI.E. NEW REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EDINA COMMUNITY COUNCIL CONTINUED TO NEXT MEETING**

Commissioner Finsness reported that the Edina Community Council meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 AM at the Community Center. She asked that a Commissioner replace her as the HRRC representative. It was noted that Val Burke, who had been the Director of the Edina Resource Center, was now the School District's Director of Community Education Services. Commissioner Finsness' replacement will be determined at the September meeting.

**VII. CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS**

No correspondence or petitions were received.

**VIII. CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Winnick shared his concern regarding comments made at the Reflections on Bullying event last April regarding an incident within the Youth Hockey Association. The Commission questioned the policies and procedures for bullying in all the athletic associations. Commissioners Winnick and Finsness will meet with the City's Park and Recreation Director, John Keprios, to discuss the incident.

**IX. STAFF COMMENTS**

There were no comments.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business on the Commission Agenda, Chair Kingston declared the meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Susan Howl, HRRC Staff Liaison

Minutes approved by HRRC, September 27, 2011.

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Jessi Kingston, HRRC Chair