

Isabella Co Human Rights Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: June 6, 2016

Called to order: 5:28 PM

Members Present

Amy Shawboose
Anne Swift
Shuna Stevens, Secretary
Bob Newby
Wendy Hovey
Elizabeth Husbands, Vice-Chair
Shirley Decker
Sue Poindexter

Excused Absences

David Ling, County Commissioner
Laura Gonzales
Maureen Eke, Chair

1. Welcome:

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Elizabeth Husbands.

2. Approval of Agenda

Shirley Decker moved to accept the agenda. Sue Poindexter seconded.

3. General Public Comment

A member of the public was in attendance, Jerelle Erbs (not sure on the spelling), he introduced himself and said that he was there to observe and to learn about the group. The HRC introduced themselves. There was a short question and answer period.

County Commissioner James Moreno was also present.

4. Approval of May 2016 Meeting Minutes

There were no May minutes to review. This was tabled until May minutes can be reviewed.

5. Reports:

Education Subcommittee

- Amy Shawboose provided an update that David Ling and Laura Gonzalez were the only ones to attend the last meeting.
- Shawboose explained that the topic was brought up that an Isabella County school district (Shepherd) is not recognizing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day because there were not enough African American students in their district. There was discussion on this topic. Bob Newby moved to send a letter of inquiry into this matter.

Law Enforcement

- There was an update on the Citizens Review Board proposal and that The Mount Pleasant Area Diversity Group was still awaiting comments. Robert Newby explained that he will be meeting with members of law enforcement soon on this topic, including Mike White, MSP; William Yeagley, Central Michigan University Police; and Mike Main, interim Isabella County Sheriff.

Disability Committee

- No report. The Committee did not meet.

6. New Business:

- Husbands announced that Erica was present today to provide an update on the inquiry from Laura Gonzalez regarding the micro-aggression training video. Erica Hopscraft provided an update, the video needed to be edited as there were foster children (minors) present for the training. Erica said that with all the components of the training video that it is about 5 ½ hours long, and that she can separate the different components so that the boarding school overview conducted by Judy Pamp is separate from the other sections of the training video. The training video editing is complete and awaiting an approval to be burned to disc.
- Wendy Hovey said that she had 2 people at the HHR (Honoring, Healing, Remembering) event ask her about the micro-aggression study and how the information was being used. Wendy said they both mentioned they were part of the study.
- Hovey said that the event went well, that she met with people in the morning, provided people with an overview of the committee, and that she completed the tour. Shawboose stated that the event video is online.
- Husbands said that she has a list of people/groups from the CMU powwow that were interested in having the micro-aggression study presentation done.
- Shawboose discussed the idea of the HRC have a Human Rights Day, where HRC and other community organizations can participate and bring about awareness. There was discussion on when and where this would be held. Shawboose said that this is in the initial phase and that it can be tabled until Maureen Eke, Chair, returns next month.
- Newby made inquiry about the Confederate Flag letter; there was no information to provide, will discuss with Eke.
- The budget was reviewed and discussed.

7. Announcements

- Shawboose discussed looking ahead at the upcoming events that HRC participated in previous (Welcome Back Weekend & Main Stage), and Newby recommended signing up for those events.
- Husbands announced that the next HRC meeting would not be on July 4 due to the holiday, therefore would be on July 11 at 5:15 PM.

8. Adjournment

Shawboose made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Poindexter seconded at 6:10 PM