

Meeting Date: May 02, 2011
Called to order: 5:15pm

Members Present:

Laura Gonzales
Elizabeth Husbands
Robert Newby
Susan Poindexter
Lisa Sovereign
Raquel Fruh
Mandy Wigren

Members Absent:

Kira Gray
Maureen Eke--Excused
Jeannie Jackson--Excused

1. Welcome & Introduction of New Members

Committee members and guest Mark Bishop, from the Michigan Dept. of Civil Rights, Committee Against Hate Crimes were welcomed by Laura Gonzales, Chair.

2. Approval of Agenda:

A motion made by Susan Poindexter and seconded by Shirley Decker to approve the agenda as presented by Laura Gonzales was unanimously supported by the committee.

3. Public Comments:

None

4. Approval of Minutes from March

The minutes from last month's meeting were approved as presented in a motion made by Shirley Decker and seconded by Lisa Sovereign. The motion was unanimously supported by the committee members present.

5. Invited Speakers: Mark Bishop, representing the Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crimes (MIAAHC)

- Committee members introduced themselves and thanked Mr. Bishop for making the trip to Mt Pleasant to present to the committee:
 - Mt Pleasant area falls under the jurisdiction of the Lansing office
 - Mr. Bishop urged us to develop a community response team to respond to episodes/incidents of hate crimes against residents and citizens

HRC needs to figure out where things stand with the MIAAHC team and where we need to go from here. Raquel Fruh is scheduled to meet with Jeannie Jackson next week to discuss the current status and plans for the future.

- Additional information on MIAAHC can be found at the website www.miaahc.com
- Mark Bishop can be reached at 517/214-7909 or Bishopm3@michigan.gov He is available to do presentations at any office or facility regarding Hate Crimes or any related topic.
- The **2011 Hate Crimes conference** is scheduled for 09/09/2011 at the Kellogg Center in Lansing
 - If you plan to stay overnight rooms are \$69.00 a night
 - Special guest speaker will be Chief Law Enforcement officer of the Mexican Government

6. Old Business:

a) *Diversity Intern Status*

1. Graduate student Joe Albrecht: Laura Gonzales and Jeannie Jackson met with Joe and the Internship paperwork has been signed is awaiting Provost signature.

b) *Progress on Goals*

- Discussion tabled to next meeting due to MI Roundtable presentation

c) *Rack Cards & Banner*

- Laura will forward the estimate on to Tim for approval.

d) *Grants Request*

- No news at this time, it is hoped that the final announcement will be made by the end of the month.

e) *MI Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion*

- Next meeting May 26, 2011 at 6:30, the location to be announced
- Leadership is interested in sending a letter of support for the grant request submitted by HRC

f) *Isabella Co Committee on Hate Crimes*

- Raquel Fruh will be HRC representative, Mandy Wigren will coordinate with her as Mandy is already involved with the committee via other avenues. Raquel Fruh is scheduled to meet with Jeannie Jackson who is the Isabella Co coordinator this week.

7. New Business:

a. Unitarian Universalist Non-discrimination Ordinance

Laura Fry and Norma Bailey, members of the Mt. Pleasant Unitarian Universalist group, would like to spearhead to development of a Non-Discrimination Ordinance in Isabella Co. They are in the beginning stages of the development process and have established a Leadership Team. HRC members who wish to volunteer can contact Laura Fry or Norma Bailey.

b. Invitation to Ziibiwing:

HRC members have been invited to attend an event at the Ziibiwing Cultural Center on Thursday, May 5, 2011 from 4:00 to 5:00. American Boarding Schools. "An Exploration of Global Ethnic & Cultural Cleansing"

Tonight's meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.