

Human Rights Committee Meeting Date: July 11th 2011

Called to order: 5:15 p.m.

Members Present:

Laura Gonzales
Shirley Decker
Mandy Wigren
Susan Poindexter
Lisa Sovereen
Jeannie Jackson
Robert Newby

Members Absent:

Elizabeth Husbands
Kira Gray
Raquel Fruh
Maureen Eke

1. Welcome and Introductions and motion to begin:

- Laura Gonzales welcomed everyone.

2. Approval of Agenda:

- Move to approval by Shirley Decker; seconded by Jeannie Jackson

3. Public Comment:

- None

4. Approval of Minutes from June 6th 2011:

- Motion to accept made by Shirley Decker; seconded by Jeannie Jackson

5. Old Business:

A. Intern Status/HRC Intern Update

- Joseph Albrecht will be looking into diversity and education grants for the HRC.
- Potentially in the fall; Joe will be hosting a table at CMU's Main Stage event, this will happen the Sunday before students return (August 21). Joe is to check on a cost to host the booth. He will also check on possibly getting a table at CMU Get Acquainted Day (August 24), sponsored by Minority Student Services.
- The Intern Ranking Project sent out by Laura Gonzales was discussed; these are the results of the three HRC members who completed ranking.
 1. Monthly news letter ranked first
 2. Research grants ranked second
 3. PR outreach ranked third; outreach could encompass several topics such as FB and website ideas.

Laura asked the HRC members who had not completed the ranking to submit their responses to her by Friday, July 15.

B. Rack Card and Banner

- HRC cannot set up an email through the county accessible to us due to the members not being employed by the county. HRC can use this email; admin@isabellacounty.org. This is the last item needed for the project.

C. MI (Greater Mt. Pleasant) Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion

- Group has not had any community meetings this summer.
- The Roundtable did post and fill a part-time, three month position titled Community Organizer.
- Elizabeth Husbards was hired to the Community Organizer position; she will help maintain connections with working groups and guide the completion of the strategic plan. The goal is to share it with the Mt. Pleasant community this fall.
- Volunteers to join working groups (Business, Education, Health, and Law Enforcement) are still welcome and needed.

D. Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crimes Update (MIAAHC)

- Jeannie Jackson attended a recent meeting in Lansing with the Community Response sub-committee.
- Topics covered were strengthening community ties, by helping start up community projects and offering support; and the development of a power point presentation to distribute to MI community response to hate groups.
- Jeannie Jackson, Raquel Fruh and Mandy Wigren will act as representatives from HRC with MIAAHC.
- *Annual MIAAHC Conference; Michigan's Response to Hate, Save the date, September 9th 2011, this is a FREE event.*

E. Human Rights Conference to be hosted at CMU

- Discussion was tabled as there was no updated information on this.

6. New Business

- Jeannie Jackson to look for previous study of other Michigan HRC programs as noted in HRC ranking project; she will supply the information she obtained in 2009.
- Laura to send out an updated contact list of HRC members with their terms as Raquel Fruh's term is about to expire as well as member Maureen Eke. Laura to email Raquel to ask if she will reapply, as she is out of the country.
- Mt. Pleasant school representative, Kira Gray would need to resign to be officially removed from the HRC board; Laura Gonzales to check again into what to do to get a different Mt. Pleasant Schools representative.
- Laura Gonzales will follow up with Tribal Representative, Elizabeth Husband's position to see what can be done. Maybe Elizabeth will need to call Tim Dolehanty to discuss.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm; motion by Jeannie Jackson; seconded by Sue Poindexter.