

**Members Present:**

Elizabeth Husbands  
Jeannie Jackson  
Robert Newby  
Susan Poindexter  
Mandy Wigren  
Shirley Decker  
Raquel Fruh  
Maureen Eke  
Joe Albrecht—Intern

**Members Absent:**

Kira Gray-Removed from committee  
Lisa Sovereign-excused  
Laura Gonzales -excused

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**1. Welcome & Introduction of New Members**

Committee members and guests were welcomed by Jeannie Jackson, Vice-Chair.

**2. Approval of Agenda:**

The motion made by Robert Newby and seconded by Mandy Wigren to accept the agenda as presented was unanimously supported by the committee members.

**3. .Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2011 Meeting**

A motion to accept the minutes, as corrected, was made by Susan Poindexter and seconded by Shirley Decker. The motion was unanimously supported by the committee members. The correction was to have Mandy Wigren's absence from last month's meeting noted as excused.

**4. Public Comments:**

Comments were made by Peter and Anne Reale. Mr. Reale presented regarding their son Raymond Reale who is profoundly brain damaged and autistic. He reported having made previous complaints to Tom Dolehanty about two years ago against Listening Ear Crisis Center for abuse of their son. He reports that Raymond has lost 60lbs in three weeks and that he and Mrs. Reale were "forced" to give up guardianship of their son "...if you don't surrender guardianship we will put him where you will never see him."

Raymond's current guardian is Carol Ann Forker. Mr. Reale is working on a SLAL (Strategic Lawsuit Against Legal) against CMH, Ann Silker, Linda Kaufman, and Al Kaufman at Listening Ear. He believes these agencies are colluding against them to prevent them from having contact with Raymond or being able to care for him as he needs.

**Plan:**

- Susan Poindexter will attempt to speak with Linda Kaufman at CMH and gather any written documentation that she can regarding the case.
- Shirley Decker will gather any documentation from Tom Dolehanty regarding the case.
- Jeannie Jackson will review existing paperwork for violations of rights.
- Parents were directed to complete an Incident Report form in order to have the HRC officially begin action on this issue, if that is their wish.

## 5. Old Business:

### a. *Grad Student/HRC Intern Update:*

1. *Facebook Account*-Joe Albrecht met with Tim Dolehanty and has received approval to create an HRC Facebook page. He is awaiting contact from the County IT Department to move forward with this.
2. *Newsletter*-Great job on this edition of the newsletter! A few minor changes were suggested by members present and the newsletter can be distributed.
3. *ARCUS Foundation grant*- A requirement of the ARCUS Foundation is that all applicant organizations have an EEO statement that includes "sexual orientation, gender identity" in addition to other federal classes as well as having 501C(3) status. Unfortunately, the HRC cannot apply for ARCUS grants as we do not meet the EEO statement requirement. *He will continue to look for other grant opportunities including looking at the Mt Pleasant Foundation.*

### b. *Mt. Pleasant/MI Roundtable:*

1. The next community meeting will be on October 17, 2011 at 7:00pm at the Ziibiwing Center. The meeting's focus will be on what the Education Group has accomplished thus far. Adrienne Davis, first African American woman elected to the Plymouth-Canton School Board, will share some of the challenges and struggles she faced on the journey to success. Guests are welcomed and encouraged.

### c. *Treatment of CMU Gay and Lesbian Students:*

1. Another incident has been reported. Two gay men walked into the IHOP restaurant holding hands over the weekend of 11/5. They were asked to leave. It is rumored that the GSA at Mid Michigan Community College is working to organize a "sit-in" as well as circulating a petition.
  - It was recommended that the students/couple complete an Incident Report if they would like the HRC to intervene.
  - The second recommendation was made to have the HRC staff provide training to the IHOP staff.

### d. *Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crimes*

1. Raquel Fruh participated in a telephone conference during which they reviewed the manual.
2. Copies of the plan were reviewed by members; Raquel will email copies prior to next month's meeting to everyone for comments and recommendations.

### e. *Tribal Request*

1. Still no new information to report regarding the 2% fund grant proposal request.

### f. *HRC Memberships*

1. A public hearing was held during the last commissioners meeting and Kira Gray was officially removed from her position on the HRC. The now vacant Education Representative position will be filled by Elizabeth Husbands and Christy Cotter will post the vacant Tribal Representative position.
2. Committee members are encouraged to actively recruit any Tribal members they know to apply for the vacant Human Rights Committee position.

*g. Human Rights Conference at CMU*

1. Maureen Eke registration begins at 8:30 in the Powers Ballroom on 11/11. The conference is being co-sponsored by the Ziibiwing Center and activities on Friday will take place there from 3:30 to 8:00. Justice St Clair will be speaking about Indigenous rights and Sovereignty.

*h. Suggestions where Banner & HRC items can be used*

1. Mi Roundtable event on 11/17
2. Dickens Parade
3. Mi Alliance Against Hate Crimes-“Not in Our Town”
  - i.* Hold community viewing sessions in January. Bob Newby made a motion to request the County purchase a copy of the DVD so that the HRC can begin to build a library. The motion was seconded by Raquel Fruh and was carried unanimously by the members present.

*i. Soup and Substance Presentation at CMU about HRC*

1. Laura Gonzales, Jeannie Jackson and Elizabeth Husbands will provide a presentation about HRC on 12/06 at noon. Members are encouraged to attend and show their support for the presenters.

*j. Human Right Ordinance*

1. The HRC will support the current community groups that are working to develop, draft and have a human rights ordinance past. Members will support those working toward the development of this ordinance in any way that they can.

**6. New Business:**

None

**7. Announcements:**

No announcements

**8. Adjournment:**

Tonight’s meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM by a motion by Bob Newby and seconded by Elizabeth Husbands. The motion was unanimously carried by all members present.

Submitted by Elizabeth Husbands, Secretary