

Meeting Date: February 3, 2014

Members Present: Maureen Eke, Sue Poindexter, Wendy Hovey, Ann Swift, Amy Shawboose, Laura Gonzales, Robert Newby, David Ling, Shirley Decker

Members Absent: Elizabeth Husbands, Nicholas Hanes

**1. Welcome**

The meeting was called to order by Laura Gonzales.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Sue Poindexter made motion to approve the agenda. David Ling seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

**3. Public Comment**

Audience member commented that the HRC newsletter is not accessible except by email. Recommendation was made to post newsletter on HRC website. It was also stated that contact information for members is not on HRC website.

**4. Approval of December 2, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

Amy Shawboose motions to approve minutes. Maureen seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

**5. Old Business**

- a. Election of Officers for 2014
  - Sue Poindexter nominates Maureen Eke for Chair. Robert Newby seconded.
  - Amy Shawboose nominated Ann Swift for Chair – Ann declines.
  - David Ling moves for nominations to be closed for a unanimous ballot for Maureen. Robert Newby supports and is approved by all members.
  - Maureen accepts position of Chair.
  - Shirley Decker nominates Sue Poindexter for Vice Chair. Robert Newby seconded. All approved.
  - Sue Poindexter accepts position of Vice Chair.
  - Josh Simon, HRC Intern, volunteers as Secretary until replacement is found.
  
- b. Study of Micro-Aggressions
  - Amy Shawboose met with tribal council. Council continues to be interested and is in support of the next phase involving community education. Laura Gonzales will contact a tribal member to find out about the council's discussion on the study after Amy had to leave. David stated that the study sub-committee got printed publications of the study and copies were passed out to all HRC members.
  
- c. Community Education on Tribal Micro-Aggressions Project

- Sub-committee members are: Maureen Eke, Amy Shawboose, David Ling, Laura Gonzales, Elizabeth Husbands, and Josh Simon.
  - Laura Gonzales will be chair of the sub-committee.
  - David Ling stated that the sub-committee should organize and meet soon to determine next steps. Laura will begin moving ahead with the committee.
  - Community presentation of the study will take place on March 24<sup>th</sup> at the Ziiibiwing Center. The Michigan Department of Civil Rights will be attending.
  - Maureen Eke will be able to present the study to CMU President Ross on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. She has also contacted the CMU Academic Senate and will send a proposal to present the study during the Fall semester. Maureen will follow up about opportunity to do another Soup & Substance presentation during the week of the Pow-Wow at CMU.
  - Audience member suggests looking into doing a presentation for CMU's "Social Justice Dialogues" series on campus.
- d. Graduate Student Intern Update
- Josh Simon passed around the draft of the next HRC newsletter. He recently marched in the MLK Day march and Dickens Christmas Parade with the HRC banner. He has also been working on the HRC DisAbilities sub-committee.
- e. Rack Cards
- Maureen Eke suggested putting quotes from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and names of organizations in Michigan with whom the HRC associates with. She will make up a draft of the new rack cards to show the rest of the committee.
- f. Visibility of the Human Rights Committee
- Laura Gonzales will add events to the current calendar of activities, including HRC presentations about the Study of Micro-Aggressions.
  - HRC Soup & Substance presentation in February was canceled.
  - Feedback from the January HRC Soup & Substance presentation was positive.
- g. Inmate Information from the Sheriff/Law Enforcement Sub-Committee
- Robert Newby is currently trying to get in contact and coordinate a meeting with an officer at the jail. The sub-committee recently met and generated a list of questions to ask the Sheriff's department.
- h. DisAbility Sub-Committee
- Sub-committee met last week. At this time, the sub-committee is focused on educating itself on current issues affecting people with disabilities in the community and learning about the Americans with Disabilities Act. Ann will be contacting individuals knowledgeable in the field to meet with

the sub-committee. Sub-committee is also looking into getting a speaker to discuss the ADA at an upcoming HRC meeting and speaking to the county administrator to see how the ADA is being implemented in Isabella County. David Ling stated there was a study done last summer involving local sidewalks and the ADA and will send it to Ann.

- i. Isabella/MI Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion
  - Laura submitted a proposal to present the results of the Study of Micro-Aggressions at the upcoming Equity Network conference. Laura encouraged HRC members to explore the website and get familiar with the organization.
- j. Fundraising
  - Tabled
- k. Grants
  - Tabled

#### **6. New Business**

- a. MI Department of Civil Rights “50 Cities” Tour in Mt. Pleasant on March 24, 2014
  - Event will be all day. Public forum where the Study of Micro-Aggressions will be presented will be around 4:00pm at the Ziibiwing Center.

#### **7. Announcements**

- Robert Newby thanked Laura for her work as Chair and wishes Maureen Eke good luck for becoming the new HRC Chair.

#### **8. Adjournment**

- Amy Shawboose motions to adjourn. Maureen Eke seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Submitted by Joshua Simon  
February 9, 2014