

Meeting Date: March 3, 2014

Members Present: Maureen Eke, Sue Poindexter, Elizabeth Husbands, Anne Swift, Amy Shawboose, Laura Gonzales, Robert Newby, Shirley Decker, Kevin Daum, Nicholas Hanes

Members Absent: David Ling (Excused), Wendy Hovey

1. Welcome

Maureen Eke called the meeting to order at 5:18pm. New member, Kevin Daum, introduced himself to the committee. Committee members each introduced themselves to Kevin.

2. Approval of Agenda

Amy Shawboose made motion to approve the agenda. Sue Poindexter seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

3. Public Comment

No public comment.

4. Meeting with Isabella County Administrator

Maureen Eke recently met with County Administrator, Margaret McAvoy. Maureen Eke discussed desired updates to the committee webpage with her and the possibility of the HRC getting its own email address. Maureen Eke also discussed the tuition reimbursement payment for the HRC intern position and the updating of the HRC rack cards. Margaret McAvoy gave support for the work of the HRC, and plans on meeting with the full committee in May.

Laura Gonzales reminded the committee that the payment for the student intern position was already included in the HRC budget request for the year. Maureen Eke asked committee members to forward any budget requests to her as soon as possible.

5. Approval of February 2014 Meeting Minutes

Discussion on corrections needed to the minutes from February's meeting. Shirley Decker motioned to approve minutes. Laura Gonzales seconded. Motion approved.

6. Old Business

- a. CMU Soup & Substance on March 17
 - Maureen Eke and Mary Senter from CMU are presenting a Soup & Substance presentation about the HRC on March 17 at 12:00pm on the campus of CMU.
- b. Fund raising and grants

- Maureen Eke discussed a grant opportunity for the committee to apply for from the Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club to do a project centered on diversity and youth. Elizabeth Husbands stated she would like to help. Amy Shawboose suggested doing the project at this year's "Summer Fest". Shirley Decker suggested contacting the Community Foundation to explore grant opportunities.
- c1. Visibility of HRC: Updating/modifying the HRC webpage
 - Maureen Eke discussed updating the HRC webpage to include a photo archive and an archive to access all of the HRC newsletters. Robert Newby asked if the HRC webpage is easily accessible to the public. Discussion ensued on the major issues hindering the public from finding the committee's webpage. Discussion took place on access to the HRC Facebook page. Laura Gonzales stated that everything the committee wants to include on the webpage and Facebook page needs to be sent through county employee Joel Frederick. Committee members do not currently have direct access to the webpage or Facebook page.
 - c2. HRC email address
 - Maureen Eke discussed the need for the HRC to have its own email address that members have access to. This will increase visibility and the ability for the community to contact the committee.
 - d. Rack Cards
 - Maureen Eke asked graduate student intern, Josh Simon, to find organizations in Michigan similar to the HRC that can be included on the new rack cards. Elizabeth Husbands stated that the committee can send in a draft to the Lithoprop printing company.
 - e. Graduate Intern update
 - Josh Simon gave update on latest work to improve the committee's visibility in the community. Josh Simon was recently able to schedule a presentation for the Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club on March 10th. Maureen Eke and Elizabeth Husbands are presenting.

7. Sub-committee updates:

- a. Study of Micro-Aggressions
 - Laura Gonzales reported that the HRC presentation for the Michigan Department of Civil Rights event on March 24th will be taking place from 3:00-4:00pm at the Ziibiwing Center. The presenters will be Laura Gonzales, Maureen Eke, Elizabeth Husbands, Robert Newby, Anne Swift, and Kevin Daum. Laura Gonzales will be scheduling a practice meeting. Laura Gonzales stated she will attempt to contact the Morning Sun and CM Life newspapers to do an article on the study and upcoming event.
 - Amy Shawboose motioned to transfer all research data to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe following the MDCR event on March 24th.

Elizabeth Husbands seconded and motion was approved unanimously. Amy Shawboose suggested that Laura Gonzales and Maureen Eke do the transfer. Elizabeth Husbands will work with the technical center students to see if they can create a plaque for the HRC to give to the tribe.

- b. DisAbility sub-committee
 - Anne Swift reported the last meeting was on February 13th. Denny Adams from Iride came and spoke to the sub-committee. He gave information on the demographics of users and Iride's funding. He also discussed the issues that drivers and riders with disabilities have faced in the past and the work Iride does to serve individuals with disabilities.
- c. Inmate Information
 - Robert Newby reported that he will be filling out a Freedom of Information Act request.
- d. Michigan Department of Civil Rights 50/50 event
 - Event taking place on March 24th. Elizabeth Husbands reported that some events will be open to the public, and some will be for only certain groups. Elizabeth Husbands will check to see if HRC members can attend the breakfast for law enforcement. She urged committee members to attend as much of the event as possible.

8. New Business

- a. Graduate intern for 2014
 - Maureen Eke has put in request for a graduate student intern for the next academic school year.

9. Announcements

- Amy Shawboose reminded the committee she will be absent at the next meeting.
- Laura Gonzales asked about the HRC having a table at the CMU Pow wow. Elizabeth Husbands will setup and work the table from 10:00a-12:00p; Sue Poindexter will work from 12:00p-2:00p; Josh Simon will work from 2:00p-4:00p; and Kevin Daum will work from 4:00p-6:00p.
- Amy Shawboose and Sue Poindexter stated they will volunteer to work a table at the next CMU "Main stage" event in August.
- Laura Gonzales stated the Mt. Pleasant Diversity Group would like the HRC to do a presentation on the Study of Micro-Aggressions on March 20th. Robert Newby, Elizabeth Husbands, Kevin Daum, and Laura Gonzales will do the presentation.
- Robert Newby stated the Men & Violence panel discussion will take place on April 16th.

10. Adjournment

- Amy Shawboose motions to adjourn. Elizabeth Husbands seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:44pm.

Submitted by Joshua Simon
March 23, 2014