

Meeting Date: May 5, 2014

Members Present: Maureen Eke, Elizabeth Husbands, Anne Swift, Laura Gonzales, Shirley Decker, Kevin Daum, Nicholas Hanes, Robert Newby, Wendy Hovey, Joshua Simon

Members Absent: David Ling (Excused), Susan Poindexter (excused), Amy Shawboose

1. Welcome

Maureen Eke called the meeting to order at 5:21pm. Maureen Eke introduced County Administrator, Margaret McAvoy.

2. Meet Margaret McAvoy

Margaret McAvoy, County Administrator, introduced herself. HRC members introduced themselves. Margaret McAvoy has been in this position since August 2013. She welcomes the HRC's input on issues concerning the county. She thanked the HRC for their service.

3. Approval of Agenda

Elizabeth Husbands motions to approve agenda. Wendy Hovey seconded. Motion approved.

4. Public Comment

Three people in audience. No public comment.

5. Approval of April 2014 Meeting Minutes

Anne Swift needs name corrected. Robert Newby should be listed as absent. David Ling needs to be listed as absent. CMU President's Leadership Group should not be listed under Soup & Substance. Shirley Decker motioned to approve minutes with corrections noted. Kevin Daum seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

6. Old Business

a. Study of Micro-Aggressions presentations

Maureen Eke sent email to Andrew Spencer of CMU Academic Senate in regards to making a presentation in the fall of 2014. Maureen Eke explained the presentations done thus far, and Andrew Spencer welcomed a presentation. He will share the information with the Executive Body of the Academic Senate. Maureen Eke will wait for his response.

Maureen Eke was going to present the study to a CMU class, but the professor had to cancel. This may be rescheduled for the fall semester.

Dr. Sterling Johnson of CMU made a presentation of the study to all of his classes. Dr. Johnson then invited Tribal Council Member Tom Kequom to talk about the study to his class.

Maureen Eke asked HRC committee members to think about doing a presentation about the study to the next Human Rights conference in 2015 in Mt. Pleasant.

b. Micro-Aggression Study Power Point

Maureen Eke will look at each power point this summer after she returns from South Africa. Maureen Eke met with a board member from the Michigan Department of Civil Rights (MDCR), and this board member stated that the MDCR is still talking positively about the study and the presentation that was given to the MDCR. Maureen Eke will attempt to have a conversation with MDCR board members about suggestions on improving the power point presentation.

c. Michigan Department of Civil Rights – Continuing Conversation

Maureen Eke will get names of officials who attended the breakfast with law enforcement during the Michigan Department of Civil Rights 50/50 Tour Event and who are supportive of HRC activities. Maureen Eke will email Mark Bishop from the Michigan Department of Civil Rights for this. Maureen Eke will start having conversation with a few people and then move forward from there. From there, Maureen Eke will work on setting a date to get these people together in a meeting.

d. HRC Budget for 2014-2015

Anne Swift asked if we are approved for an intern for next year. Maureen Eke will continue to have conversation with Margaret McAvoy to find out a final answer. Maureen Eke passed out the budget from last year and HRC members reviewed. Maureen Eke stated per diem amount will remain the same. Printing/binding and postage will stay the same. Dues and subscriptions have not been used. Maureen Eke asked if this item was needed. Elizabeth Husbands stated the original idea behind this was to do a lending library. Maureen Eke will leave money for this on the budget for now. Laura Gonzales stated the HRC needs to spend the money in the budget for printing rack cards before this year's budget is over. Maureen Eke stated that if the committee does not use all of the money allotted to the HRC this year, it could affect funding for next year's budget.

Elizabeth Husbands suggested ordering new HRC pens and other such items. Maureen Eke asked for volunteers to take inventory of items that the HRC has left. Kevin Daum and Elizabeth Husbands volunteered and will complete inventory. Maureen Eke will leave car mileage on budget. Anne Swift asked if meals and lodging are included under budget item for seminars. Maureen Eke stated that this would need to be included for conferences that are out of Mt. Pleasant.

Laura Gonzales will check on conferences being planned by the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. Maureen Eke asked if HRC pays a registration fee for special events that HRC has a table at. Elizabeth Husbands answered no since HRC is a non-profit, except for the Mt. Pleasant Summer Festival. Elizabeth Husbands stated the HRC has had a spot at the County Fair in the past. Laura Gonzales will check about cost for the HRC to have a spot at the Summer Festival and County Fair. Elizabeth Husbands suggested conferences by the Michigan Association of Planners. Next conference will be Oct 8-10th at Mackinaw Island. Wendy Hovey will find out more information about fees and membership. Maureen Eke will ask Margaret McAvoy about attending this conference as a member of Isabella County. Laura Gonzales asked for members to send her information about suggested conferences. Maureen Eke will find out how much money HRC has left for this year's budget. Laura Gonzales and Elizabeth Husbands will explore racism training for the Fall.

e. Visibility of HRC: Updating/modifying the HRC webpage

Margaret McAvoy reported that the County will be working with Maureen Eke on this issue. A meeting will take place when Maureen Eke returns from South Africa. The County may not support having a Facebook page for the HRC, but Margaret McAvoy will follow up about this. She will look into it, and get back with the HRC, but has concerns with having a Facebook page hosted by the County. Kevin Daum suggested having a disclosure stating it is not a County approved Facebook page.

Kevin Daum asked if the HRC webpage would be separate from the Isabella County webpage. Margaret McAvoy stated it would remain part of the County webpage. Information put on the page will still be maintained and approved by County IT staff first. Margaret McAvoy stated the HRC will need to follow the same procedures as the rest of the County departments in regards to the webpage. Maureen Eke stated that revamping the webpage to make it more user-friendly is most important.

f. HRC email address

Margaret McAvoy will be taking care of setting up an email account for the HRC. The HRC will need to designate the people allowed to have access to this account, and they will go through training for it. The email will be an

“@isabellacounty.org” address. Maureen Eke will contact Margaret McAvoy upon her return from South Africa to meet and take care of this. The HRC needs to discuss what the name of the email address will be.

g. Rack Cards

Maureen Eke asked Josh Simon to get names, addresses, and websites of human rights agencies to put on the new rack cards.

h. Summer Activities, etc.

Laura Gonzales called the Summer Festival for information about registering the HRC. The dates are June 5-8th. Laura Gonzales asked the committee how many days the HRC wants to be there. Nicholas Hanes will email members about volunteering and coordinate attendance in two-hour shifts.

HRC needs to find out what the price is to register for the Pow wow. Maureen Eke will email Amy Shawboose about this.

i. Graduate Intern Update

Josh Simon has completed his internship with the HRC. He thanked the HRC members for his time as the intern. Josh Simon is currently working on finishing the latest HRC newsletter.

7. Sub-committee updates:

a) Study of Micro-Aggressions-Education Sub-Committee

Laura Gonzales thanked Kevin Daum and Josh Simon for moving forward on the fact sheet. Laura Gonzales made a list of potential groups to present to. Laura Gonzales reported that David Ling stated the HRC needs to keep in mind the different groups being presented to. Laura Gonzales is going to try to reserve a room at the Isabella County Medical Care Facility so David Ling can attend the next meeting.

b) Disability Sub-Committee

Anne Swift reported that the DisAbility Sub-Committee is meeting 5/06/14.

c) Inmate Information

Robert Newby asked Laura Gonzales for another copy of the Freedom of Information Act request. Robert Newby stated one idea was to ask a set of questions to each of the different law enforcement agencies. Robert Newby stated questions should come from the HRC as a whole, and not just from him or the

sub-committee. Robert Newby will send the questions around to the HRC in preparation to the next meeting. Maureen Eke asked for Robert Newby to also draft a letter that will be sent to the different police agencies.

8. New Business

Maureen Eke will be gone to South Africa from May 15th-June 15th.

9. Announcements

None

10. Adjournment

Robert Newby motions to adjourn. Laura Gonzales seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm.