

Isabella County Human rights Committee
July 13, 2015

Members Present

Kevin Daum
Shirley Decker
Maureen Eke, Chair
Laura Gonzales
Wendy Hovey
David Ling
Bob Newby
Amy Shawboose

Excused Absentees

Elizabeth Husband (Sec)
Sue Poindexter(Vice Chair)
Anne Swift

- I. **Meeting was called** to order by Chair Maureen Eke at 5:26.
- II. **Agenda:** Moved by Amy Shawboose, Second by Bob Newby to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.
- III. **General Public Comment:** None.
- IV. **Minutes of the June meeting** were unavailable and will be approved at August meeting.
- V. **Reports**
 - A. Chair's Report:
 1. Maureen Eke reported that the proposed budget for HRC for Fiscal 2016 will be \$7,150.00. This is \$200.00 less than last year but reflects eliminating of budget lines, such as postage that have not been used.
 2. Chair Eke reported that an intern has been hired to work until October and will work under the Chair and Vice Chair's direction with gathering possible grant sources and doing miscellaneous activity for the HRC.
 - B. Summer Activities: Laura Gonzales indicated that we needed more volunteers for the up-coming events. Bob and Laura volunteered to handle a table at the September 2nd CMU Get Acquainted Day, David Ling volunteered to work the Oct. Disability Awareness Expo (Anne Swift will be asked to also serve), Maureen will be responsible for Indigenous Peoples Day on October 12, and Laura Gonzales volunteered to serve as contact for CMU HRLASS Conference. Discussion ensued concerning arranging to include our material in packets for this last event. Eke indicated that it would be useful to have our rack cards included in packets and that we might want to be listed as an affiliated sponsor. Moved by Newby, Seconded by Daum that we seek to be an affiliated sponsor for the conference at a cost not to exceed \$300.00. Motion carried.

- C. Summerfest: Bob Newby reported that during the time he and Laura Gonzales were at the Summerfest which was on Thursday, there was limited activity at the table and he had nothing to pass out or give away. Hence few stopped to talk. Suggested that next year we order a table for the days we will be there, that in addition to rack cards we have something to hand out, and that we only consider working the festival on Friday and/or Saturday. Discussion then ensued concerning what we have available for handouts (e.g. pencils, candy, etc). It was concluded that we needed to take an inventory of what we currently have and restock where needed.
- D. "Honoring, Healing and Remembering" day at grounds of site of old Indian Boarding School: Kevin Daum reported that it was a moving and informative program and that several people stopped by to talk or pick up rack cards.

VI. **Sub-committee updates.**

- A. Micro-Aggression education sub-committee report. Gonzales reported that the training session was held on June 22-23, and that the trainer was very good and inspiring. The program did get far behind schedule, and as a result there was little opportunity for actual hands on training in presentation of material. However the trainer has agreed to review our power point and send us her comments. She also indicated that she would be return to Mt. Pleasant in the fall and would be happy to meet with us again. We are in the process of arranging an alternate meeting before the fall to provide some opportunities for all presenters to become familiar with equipment and the power point. Laura Gonzales also reported that the presentational equipment has been purchased and is now available for us to use (projection equipment, speaker, screen, clicker, etc.). Tape of the presentation is now being edited, and we are updating list of what groups we hope to present to.
- B. Micro-aggression education budget: Gonzales indicated that we have made major expenditures, but she is still working with the County Finance Office to establish a system to assure that she is able to maintain records of all expenditures, and hopes to have a budget update in the near future.

VII. **New Business.**

- A. David Ling indicated that he and Mary Senter were interested to writing up the results of the Micro-aggression Study for publication in an appropriate professional journal in order to make material available to other communities who might find it useful. He indicated that before a final draft was submitted it would be presented to the HRC for review. There was general support for proceeding.
- B. Bob Newby asked that we consider writing an education piece for the local paper explaining the recent decision of South Carolina to remove the Confederate Flag from its public grounds. Much discussion followed and the

Committee agreed that Bob Newby would create such a letter that we might wish to submit to the *Morning Sun*.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Submitted by David Ling, Secretary-(very) pro tem.

Voted and approved: 8/3/2015