

Human Rights Committee
November 2, 2009
Minutes

Members Present: Shirley Decker, Patty Csernai, Robert Newby, Elizabeth Husbands,
Lori Flynn Tyree, Sue Poindexter, Laura Gonzales, William Calhoun,
Kira Grey

Members Absent: Carol Richardson, Jeannie Jackson

Meeting called to order at 5:15 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

- Moved by Shirley and seconded by Laura.

2. Public Comment

- Dr. Ulana Klymyshyn, facilitator of the Soup & Substance came to thank the HRC for their presentation.
- Commissioner Jim Moreno made an announcement at the HRC meeting for the HRC to speak to The Isabella County Community Collaborative connection at the Isabella DHS on 11/06/09 at 9am. It typically lasts about 1.5hr. There is another meeting after hours by the Chamber of Commerce on 11/10/09. CMU
- Rachel Preveh, a representative from the CMU center for research training associated with GLBTG announced that she along with a few others are in the process of starting GSA (Gay, Straight, Alliance) at local high schools. At their first meeting 25 students were present.

3. Diversity Coordinator Report

- Working on looking into more grant opportunities beyond the 2% grant funding.
- The Disability Awareness fair was a great success but the attendance was low due to Western Weekend Football game.
- Updates have been made to the new HRC brochure.
- The HRC now has a banner for display at future engagements.
- Final date end will be December 10, 2009. Preparing notes for her successor.
- There has been no reapplication for the 2% or other grant funding since 2003.
- Lori has proposed to meet with Tim Dolehanty – county administrator to discuss a contingency plan in event of no 2% funding.
- Proposal by Laura to see how other counties fund their diversity positions.
- County needs to make a full time commitment to diversity and not rely on grant funding to support the position. The HRC needs to develop an advocacy stance.
- Needs to suggest a plan of action for while the DC replacement is in process. Susan asked if there will be an exit interview to update the county administrator of where the DC's stands.

- The HRC needs to identify a person to monitor incident report forms.
- Lori will invite Tim to attend the next meeting to discuss the future planning.

4. Old Business

a) *Disability Awareness Month*

- The fair had a lot of vendors but not a lot of students but there was a request to make it a yearly event.

b) *HRC Appointment*

- Jeannie Jackson and Kira Grey have been appointed. Jeannie Jackson for one year as she completes the term of former committee member Jeremy Dickinson. Kira has been appointed for a three year term.

5. New Business

HRC 2010 Strategies

- ***Blossom***: Suggested the request of interns. Explore looking at MA level interns to supplement the Diversity Coordinator position. Lori will bring such requests to Tim. Motioned by Bob and seconded by Laura.
- ***Elizabeth***: Vista funding information for potential funding for the DC position will be given to Blossom
- ***Will***: Proposed to podcast meetings and upload them to the internet. Concern is with the confidentiality of those who submit an incident report form.
- BCA Department has students who are working in podcast and maybe able to assist with the podcast technology.
- ***Patty***: submitted price quotes to the HRC from JnR and they were \$8.50 for the small and \$10.50 for the large. She also presented the idea for diversity lunch boxes. Such boxes will be donated by Patty for a giveaway at various diversity presentations.

Next meeting is December 7, 2009 at 5:15 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.