

Members Present:

Laura Gonzales
Shirley Decker
Robert Newby
Jeannie Jackson
Mandy Wigren (1st meeting)

Members Absent:

Elizabeth Husbands
Maureen Eke
Susan Poindexter

1. Welcome and introductions – Laura Gonzales

- Introductions were made for the new member, Mandy Wigren
- Mandy introduced herself to the group. Mandy has lived in Mt. Pleasant for 10 years. She graduated from CMU in 2003 and works for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe in the Victims of Crime Program.

2. Approval of Minutes:

- Minutes from 11/01/2010 were unanimously approved

3. Approval of Agenda:

- The agenda was approved by a motion by Shirley Decker and seconded by Robert Newby with no changes or additions.

4. Public Comments:

- None

5. Presentations:

- Guest Speaker – Sean Novak, Coordinator of Isabella County Hate Crimes Response Team.
- Sean informed the group that he was leaving to take a position at Duke University. The group congratulated Sean.
- Sean stated that he had made outreach efforts to Hunter Genia of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and John Barker, supervisor for Union Township, to garner support for the Response Team.
- Hunter will not be the sole person contacted from the tribe, but since he's the Director of Behavioral Health, representation from his office would be desirable. John Barker expressed support and said that he will be forwarding the information to John Dinse, who serves on the Planning Commission for Union Township and is also their representative on the MPADG.
- Contact was made with David Ling, Chair of the Isabella County Board of Commissioners and a follow-up will be made by e-mail.
- Sean gave some written notes to Jeannie with information about who he had contacted.

6. Old Business:

a) Nomination for Vice Chair

Robert Newby nominated Jeannie Jackson for Vice Chair, Jeannie accepted and a motion was made by Robert Newby and seconded by Shirley Decker. A vote was

taken and it was unanimously agree to appoint Jeannie Jackson as Vice Chair of the HRC.

b) Diversity Intern Status:

- Laura has been in contact with Tim Dolehanty about the Graduate Student HRC Interns. Tim found out from one of the recommended interns, Joe, that his advisor said he could not do the internship until summer 2011. Laura said she would call the advisor, for clarification. Laura also called Nick, the other Intern selected, to see if he was still interested and left a message for him to contact her.
- Laura asked if we wanted to wait for him or go forward with other hires.
- Jeannie expressed concern about the student not being able to start until summer, but also stated that we only had the two students who were qualified for the position, so it may be better to have someone in the summer, rather than starting over at this time.
- Laura stated we may have to start the hiring process again, if the search was unsuccessful.

c) Recommendation to have an assessment of the ethnic, cultural and racial make-up of Isabella County workforce

- Jeannie and Robert discussed the legal obligations for counties to track the racial makeup of employees of county offices.
- Laura will set up a meeting with herself, Jeannie and Robert to meet with Tim to discuss his input on the racial tracking of county employees.

d) Progress on Goals

- Laura provided a draft list of the HRC activities from October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010. Laura said she could update the list to make it current. This list can be provided as an Annual Report to the Isabella County Commissioners.

e) Grants

- Laura stated that we can get an update at the next meeting, from Maureen Eke, on her student who is doing an Internship with her, regarding grant writing and can assist with our grant request.

7. New Business:

- Laura shared that Steve Spreitzer, from the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, had questions about whether the HRC would have any duplication of effort/conflict with his group, regarding the focus of each group.
- The group could not determine that there was any conflict between the missions of each group.
- Laura will contact Audra for the HRC to be invited to the 1/27/11 meeting of the Michigan Roundtable.
- Shirley Decker thanked the group for the flowers that HRC members sent to her for the passing of her husband. She said the flowers were lovely.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 p.m., motioned by Jeannie Jackson and seconded by Bob Newby