

**Isabella County Human Rights Committee
February 5, 2018
County Administrative Building
Time: 5:15 p.m. Room 225**

Members Present:

Maureen Eke
Elizabeth Husbands
Mitchell Alexander
Sharon Avery
Sarvjit Chowdhary
David Ling

**Members Not Present:
Excused**

Laura Gonzales
Amy Shawboose
Sue Poindexter
Wendy Hovey
Anne Swift

1. Welcome

- a. Maureen Eke welcomed Commissioner Tobin Hope.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Husbands moved for approval of agenda, Alexander seconded. Passed with amendments

3. Public Comment

- a. Commissioner Hope addressed the Committee. He expressed support for the work and mission of the Committee.

4. Approval of Minutes of January 2018. Husbands moved for approval. Seconded by Sarvjit Chowdhary. Passed w/ amendments.

5. Chair's Report:

- a. Presentation to Isabella County Board of Commissioners (Feb. 6)
- b. Incident Report: resident's housing complaint—accessibility accommodation
Eke reported that she met with the representative of the housing complex involved to address the resident's complaints about the ADA compliance for her apartment.
- c. HRC Graduate student intern: Maureen Eke stated that Jessica Axe has indicated an interest in serving again as HRC intern.
- d. CMU presentations: MLK Peace Week march: Eke reported that she and Sharon Avery represented the HRC during the Peace march on the MLK Jr.'s Day. Sharon Avery took some pictures that she will share.
- e. Black History Month presentation: "human rights in our community" Thursday, Feb. 8, 12:00 p.m. Terrace Rooms UC
- f. Donation to HRC from the Office for Institutional Diversity, CMU. Eke indicated that we received a donation of \$35.00 from three students through the Office for Institutional Diversity. Eke has written a "thank you" letter to Dr. Guinn. Letter was shared with the HRC.
- g. i. Outreach to communities beyond Mt. Pleasant: Mitchell Alexander will explore ways of reaching out to the townships in an effort to extend the HRC's services beyond Mt. Pleasant.
- g.ii. Schools—Mt. Pleasant & Shepherd. Elizabeth Husbands will try to connect with Shepherd and Mt. Pleasant Public Schools to schedule presentations.
- h. Civility, Sensitivity, & Team Building training: Eke has spoken with Miss Sapphire Cureg at CMU's Diversity Office for a workshop with the HRC.

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- i. Community event—Town hall meeting on “Health and human rights”. Eke indicated that this is an important issue because of the community’s concerns about human trafficking, the opioid crisis and the growing homeless population in the area. Further discussion was suggested.
- j. HRC publicity—media—FB and recording meetings for community TV: Discussion postponed.
- k. ICCC update (Wendy Hovey/Maureen N. Eke): Eke reported on issues that were discussed at the recent ICCC meeting, including the opioid crisis; Isabella County has been identified as the poorest county in the state.
- l. Future appointments to HRC (Elizabeth Husbands) Discussion postponed.
- m. HRC by-Laws: removal of members: Discussion postponed.

Discussions of additional agenda items were postponed because several HRC members had to leave; we will no longer have a quorum.

MOTION to adjourn was made by Elizabeth Husbands and seconded by Mitchell Alexander. Meeting was adjourned at 6:15p.m.