

Isabella Co Human Rights Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: May 7, 2018

Called to order: 5:35pm

Members Present

Elizabeth Husbands, Vice-Chair
David Ling, County Staff
Sarvjit Chowhary
Anne Swift
Sharon Avery
Cheryl Gonzalez
Laura Gonzales
Amy Shawboose

Excused Absentees

Maureen Eke, Chair
Sue Poindexter
Mitchell Alexander

1. Welcome:

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Husbands at 5:56pm but noted that the meeting started at 5:35pm when the discussion started. In a motion made by Sharon Avery and seconded by Sarvjit Chowhary motion was carried unanimously.

2. Approval of Agenda

An agenda was not present so approval was not made.

3. Approval of April 2018 Meeting Minutes

The motion to approve the April 2018 minutes was tabled as they were not currently available.

4. Public Comment

Alicia Paterni attended the meeting to show interest in HRC and to discuss a concern she had regarding Shepherd High School not having a specified area for wheel chairs. Elizabeth Husbands suggested a formal incident report be filled out if guest would like HRC to investigate.

5. Old Business:

- a. Maple Syrup Festival was attended by Chair Maureen Eke, Amy Shawboose, and Sharon Avery. It was noted that more candy should be purchased next year.
- b. Honoring, Healing & Remembering noted that another meeting will take place on June 4 before the event on June 6. It is unclear who will be in attendance from HRC but a table is reserved.
- c. Vice Chair Husbands mentioned the need for a temporary secretary until all of the seats on the committee are filled, Sharon Avery volunteered.

6. New Business:

- a. Sue Poindexter resigned by email on May 7, 2018 at 3:58pm, because of urgent family commitments.

- b. Mitchell Alexander resigned by email sent specifically to Sharon Avery, because he was relocating to another city. Although it was requested that he send an email to the entire committee, the email was not received.
- c. Laura Gonzales offered the recorded Micro-aggression training drive to Cheryl Gonzalez and Sharon Avery. Cheryl will receive the training drive this month and will forward it to Sharon once she has reviewed it.
- d. Blackstone incident was brought to our attention by David Ling who was informed by Steve Spritzer, the Director of the Michigan Roundtable on Diversity and Inclusion (MDRI). According to Spritzer, a bartender and bouncer at Blackstone Bar used a racial slur against a patron where they told the patron to go back to where she came from. It was unanimously decided that in order for HRC to further investigate the incident, a formal incident report must be completed with names and dates. The HRC noted that this is a potential violation of local ordinance.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Elizabeth Husbands at 6:45. Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth and seconded by Amy Shawboose; motion was carried unanimously.