

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes

Wed July 16, 2014

Independent Lifestyles

6 pm – 7 pm

Present: Eunice Aadjei, Angela Amic (guest), Judy Foster, Ray Maier, Rachel Wexelbaum, Val Young

Meeting to order 6:02 PM

Welcome and Introductions

Eunice--Gov Dayton going to come to future GRIP / ISIAIAH meeting—Eunice will keep us posted on date, time, and Val --Saturday night--independent lifestyles has fundraiser going on for new veterans center--VFW post 428 18th avenue --St. Cloud; Cara's vision: all-inclusive vet's center

Amy Diedrich resigned from HRC due to health issues; now there are 3 openings on the commission; Eunice will contact Mike Williams to call a meeting of the Joint Powers Board to get 3 people appointed (there are 8 applications pending right now)

Open Forum Community Members Present: Angela Amic had no questions or concerns; just wanted to listen in

Review Minutes Judy motioned to approve the minutes / Ray seconded / minutes approved

Date for Monthly Forums: Fall forum scheduled—Wed Sept 19 6-8 pm. Eunice will see if we can book City Hall for the event, Ray will make a flyer/postcard, Rachel will advertise through social media, everyone will promote to the local organizations. Schedule for the event may include people for testimonials, Rich and Patrick presentation, commissioners explain how they support the office, presentations from Chief of Police, 724 school district, chamber of commerce, head of Metro Bus, Mike explains status update, next steps, and open forum. Everyone should leave with a brochure, a handout, and a business card. We now have a budget for food for forums; everyone will bring food and give their receipts to Eunice to give to Mike Williams. Name of the event will be “St Cloud Regional Human Rights Office--what's next???”

We will invite the Mayor, Mike Williams, St Cloud Chief of Police, 742 School District Superintendent, ISIAIAH, CREATE Community, NAACP, Denny Smith, and representatives from all local organizations committed to human rights.

Report from Human Rights Office--no updates; Rich and Patrick not here

Deputy human rights commissioner retired--no more communication. Still no response on funding. Still no official response from mayor to the letter in St Cloud Times--Mike has been meeting with Eunice.

Update from Ray: newsletter, Pride and business cards

Ray made a draft of the newsletter; commissioners reviewed and made comments/edits. Eunice and Ray still need to provide bios. Ray wants to get it out by the end of July; he will do the mass mailing. We will distribute this newsletter at events as well. Rachel will give Ray the FB URL and Twitter handle for the print version of this newsletter. Judy had Brett's old business cards; commissioners reviewed these as well and made comments. Rachel will also give Ray the FB URL and Twitter handle for these.

Ray will do the same things for the Pride booth that he has done in previous years; all are in favor of this.

Other

Promotion of meetings/events: Val got information on how to send events to St Cloud Times, and will send events to them to advertise. Val is playing phone tag with KVSC and WJON.

Increasing Interest in HRC: Rachel suggested that each of us take a turn to go to the weekly town hall meetings--a different person each week asking about the Human Rights Office. If possible, we should also call in to the Mayor's weekly Monday morning radio show.

Rachel informed commissioners about Denny's diversity seminar at the St Cloud Public Library Thursday July 24th at 7 pm—Rachel will post this to FB.

Judy informed commissioners about Emily Baxter's upcoming presentation "We Are All Criminals" at the St Cloud Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on Maine Prairie Road, Aug 23 1 pm -3pm. This event will not be advertised to the public at large.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:02 PM

Next Meeting: Wed August 20, 6 pm, Independent Lifestyles