

Present: Eunice Aadjei, Emily Ackerman, Angela Amic (guest), Rich Cousin, Judy Foster, Rachel Wexelbaum, Val Young

Meeting came to order 6:01 pm

1. Welcome and introductions: Bonded by going around the room and sharing one word that described our personalities.
2. Open forum: No new guests
3. Approve January and February minutes:
January minutes: Judy motions to approve /Emily seconds / Minutes approved
February minutes: Rachel moves to approve minutes with the amendment that the Sept 19 SCSU forum is revised to Sept 16 / Emily seconds / Minutes approved w/change
4. Informational/query -- Community Policing Agreement.
Judy inquired as to whether or not St. Cloud had a Community Policing Agreement. Policy is being revisited by a community review group composed of St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, and Sartell police chiefs, lieutenants, Rich, NAACP, and members of the public. There will be a related event on Sat March 21 at 10 am at the St Cloud Public Library to discuss community policing. Rich will keep us in the loop about community policing review meetings and will send the commission the link to the updated policy. John Justin is the St. Cloud police officer coordinating the community policing project. Discussion about St. Cloud police and police chief.
5. Forums---planning
Planning of Wed May 20 homeless / housing forum. Action items:
Eunice: reserve venue and make flyer
Rachel: will draft email to send out and post event invite to FB
Ray: put event in the newsletter
Emily: will compose the questions
Judy: will send Rachel a list of housing / homeless related contacts
Rachel and Rich: Go to Project Homeless Connect on Thu Mar 19 to network and do PR for the event
Everyone: ideas for packaged foods, beverages, other items—to discuss in April
6. Social Action Symposium: Organized by Hedy Tripp at SCSU: Wed April 22 6 pm – 9 pm; at least one of us should attend

7. SCSU report—Rachel

Rachel has another meeting scheduled with Mark Vargas and Bruce Busby about human rights on campus, and plans for creation of a one-stop website to address discrimination. Rachel has made the President's Diversity Advisory Council aware of the Human Rights Commission. On April 1 she will inform the Commission of our monthly meetings, forums, and plan for SCSU outreach. She is encouraging the SCSU people to come to our meetings to help plan the SCSU forum.

Rachel will start working on a Subject Guide that includes all equity and diversity related units, committees, and organizations at SCSU and in the community. The Subject Guide will include the Human Rights Office and Human Rights Commission.

8. Draft email to service providers

Val and Rachel met to draft a generic email to send out to service providers that would inform them about the Human Rights Commission and Human Rights Office, and would encourage them to refer people to either the HRC or HRO if they share information about any discrimination-related incidents. The commission made further edits to the document. Once edits are made, Rachel will resend the document out to the Commission for final review by a particular deadline; once that is done she will begin sending out the email. Rich would also like the text of this email sent to the *St. Cloud Times* as a letter to the editor, as well as the city halls of our sister cities.

9. Grant opportunities from Headwaters Foundation: will discuss in April

10. Update from Human rights office: Mayor wants Human Rights Commission to do more outreach and education; state human rights commissioner does not agree that volunteer commissions should do this.

Rich working on 180 cases—sexual harassment, age discrimination, and disability most common cases. Discussion of those incidents that do not get reported.

11. Other: Discussion of Tech High School student protest. Eunice will call the Mayor and ask if the Human Rights Commission can meet with the City Attorney to draft an official statement about this issue.

12. Adjourn 7:10 pm

