

Richfield Human Rights Commission

Monthly meeting minutes

June 6, 2017

Members present: Jeff Wright, Swopnil Shrestha, Mark Westergaard, Logan Schultz, Sarah Musgrave, Chara Blanch, Will Ruckel, Ben Sunderlin, Debbie Eng, Yami Ordonez, Sara Gumke

Liaisons: Tim Pollis – School Board Liaison, Mike Howard – City Council Liaison

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m.

1. Mark Westergaard moved to approve minutes of may meeting – Jeff Wright 2<sup>nd</sup> – carries
2. Mark Westergaard move to approve agenda – Sarah Musgrave 2<sup>nd</sup> – carries
3. No open public comment
4. Planned Parenthood – Jeff Wright gave intro
  - a. Jamie Grills – Assistant Director of Education and Outreach at Planned Parenthood
  - b. Katrina Mendoza – works with middle and high school students – at RHS and RMS --- once per year. Out of the Vandalia clinic.
  - c. Have Richfield specific information. In 2008 got a lot of federal money. Partnership with Better Together Hennepin. Program is Que Onda! (What’s Up!) Talk about sex, STI’s and relationships. Work with female students so that they become peer educators.
  - d. Handout with program options – contact info on brochure
  - e. Communications team will help write a resolution.
  - f. Students get paid for involvement. \$5 per contact as a peer educator. The students can come and teach us.
  - g. Mike Howard offered to have them come to Council.
5. Reports
  - a. Chair
    - i. Annual Report – please send any changes before 6/27.
    - ii. Jacobsen Award Presentation – 6/27. Reception at 6:00; Council Meeting at 7:00
    - iii. Commissioner Recognition Event – 6/13 at 6:00
    - iv. MNDHR – TPT (Twin Cities Public Television) – Invitation to “Our Rights: Justice for All” screening – 6/13 7:00pm
    - v. Heredia Friendship City sculpture dedication: Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> 2:00 PM, City Hall
    - vi. Neil Ruhland is the new Media Coordinator for the City
  - b. Secretary – absent
  - c. Vice Chair – No report

- d. School Board Liaison – a lot of activity since the last board meeting. Understands the concerns that were raised. What he did as a board member was to ask about each and every thing along the way. There’s more to come but don’t know how public it will be. District policy can be reviewed; employee concerns can’t be.
    - i. Is the discipline process online? Doesn’t know
    - ii. When is your term up? This year – 4 year term
    - iii. Had student organized protests as well. Students brought forth multiple issues. Glad they spoke up – wish they had sooner.
    - iv. Discussion around move from 6 hour day to 7 hour day
  - e. Council Liaison
    - i. Housing -- Success with Aeon purchasing Season’s Park. Taking ownership in September. One meeting with tenants so far. 404 units; many 2 & 3 bedroom units. A private developer was interested in purchasing – concerns about a similar situation to Crossroads. Aeon will update the facilities. School district and board was involved – brought attention to Council. May work on ordinances – 30 day notification of sales.
  - f. Transportation Commission
    - i. Not enough foot traffic at 72<sup>nd</sup> and Nicollet for a stoplight
    - ii. Grant money to get set up like Portland on Nicollet – enhanced crosswalk
  - g. Community Services – no report
  - h. Comprehensive Plan – no new meeting
6. Committee Reports
- a. Islam 101 Event - 60-75 attendees, Church was great, Presentation went well
  - b. Community Engagement Community – Sara didn’t attend tour; Maria went and provided update
    - i. Committee will meet to determine goals of the sub-committee
  - c. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Planning
    - i. Wrist bands are 41 cents each if order 1000; temp tattoos are 17 cents each if order 1000
    - ii. Would need a banner – no quote; other commissions would need to get on board
    - iii. Carrie will have to follow up on Candy and Pamphlets
    - iv. Jeff will work with MNDHR for swag
    - v. No cooperation with RSJC
    - vi. City will reach out to Fraser
  - d. Black Lives Matter Resolution
    - i. Civil Service Commission may be disbanded because it hinders hiring diverse candidates
    - ii. Vote tabled until can be sent out as a pre-read
7. Unfinished Business
- a. Night to Unite – contact is Jill Mecklenberg. Sara will reach out about commission participation
8. Tabled items
- a. Benchmarking against other commissions

- b. Community Conversations at Augsburg
- c. Sara confirming Community Engagement speaker for August

Motion to Adjourn – Debbie Eng; Second – Chara Blanch

Adjourn at 8:24 p.m.