

Human Rights Commission
December 17, 2003
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Nancy Clark, Gabe Garcia, Susan Wagner, Valentina Gallegos, Jeanne Poppe, Trish Wiechmann.

Media: Roxanna O., Matt M.

Essay contest. Due to the small number of entries we decided we would award one first place prize using the \$50 savings bond that Gabe has already gotten.

Human Rights Award. It was moved (Poppe) and seconded (Garcia) to approve the nomination of Father Paul Nelson for the Human Rights Award for 2004. Trish will contact Maryann Wolesky to get more background info to use in the award ceremony.

MLK Celebration – Trish will work with Liliana to prepare the posters and Jeanne (Riverland CC) and Susan (Queens, St As, courthouse) will help to post them. Trish will check with Chamber to see about getting them in the downtown kiosks. Liliana will be contacted to see if there is other help she needs. Event will be Monday January 19 with a march from city hall to St. Olaf Church. Liliana is still working on getting speakers. We will ask the essay contest winner to attend and read her essay.

Annual Ethnic Festival – Sue reported on the subcommittee meeting she and John attended. She said there was quite a bit of time spent trying to determine the name of the festival so it seems more inclusive and welcoming of all residents. There may be contests for a logo and art festival. Also there will be more activities for youth including having the CARE council and the Dare to Care event happen at the Festival. Gabe mentioned the Welcome Center board is concerned about coming out in the black as they haven't in years' past. We talked about some ideas for promotion and marketing including Community Ed bulletin, library, and swimming pool, in bags of groceries. Sue and John will continue to attend the committee planning meetings.

Meetings in 2004 – We decided we would meet on Wednesday January 14, which is the week earlier than usual but that way we can do final planning for the MLK event. We also want to spend some time talking about what direction we want the Austin HRC to take.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Poppe, secretary