

Human Rights Commission
October 23, 2003 minutes

Attendees: Anu Kasturi, Susan Wagner, Pat MacLean, Jeanne Poppe, Liliana Silvestry-Neilon, Trisha Wiechmann
Guest: Amy Baskin – St. Olaf Church
Media: Matt Merritt

Martin Luther King Jr event.

Amy Baskin was present as a representative from St Olaf Lutheran Church to help learn what the needs were for the MLK event. The things needed from St Olaf church include microphone (sound), lights, sanctuary for program, basement for serving lunch; we could use women of the church for serving food. We would like signs that better direct people on where to enter the church especially those with physical limitations (where is the elevator door?). From last month's meeting we also know that our funds are limited and we might want to ask for funds from St Olaf and other churches to help support the event. The total cost of the event would be between \$500 and \$1000. Last year there was more food than necessary (miscommunication with Hy Vee) so that cost might be less this year. Also last year the majority of work and materials were done by and through the Welcome Center. If we can get more people involved in the planning some things can be done through other organizations or funding might be gotten for those activities.

Liliana did find the banner for the march. We also talked about what would be included in the program. The Human Rights Award will be presented. Nominations will be sought with requests for nominations from city council members, HRC members, and with information in the newspapers. Deadline for nominations for the Human Rights award will be December 15. Virginia Larsen will be available to give the presentation. Trish went to get an old plaque that she had with past winner's names. We were surprised to read the names and realize how many years this award had been given. Our hope is to update this plaque and put it on display in city hall.

Human Rights essay: The 1st, 2nd, 3rd student essay winners will be announced. We can notify who the top three are to see if they can be able to come to the event. Susan dropped off information at Queens and Jeanne and Nancy took information to the Ellis Middle School. Trish will see about putting information in the newspaper announcing the contest; this might draw home-schooled students to participate.

Liliana will be searching for the diskettes that Lisvel did last year which has the posters and the program material.

More planning will be done in November for the MLK event and the ethnic festival.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Poppe