

Human Rights Commission Minutes for August 24, 2005

Present: Stephanie Haedt, Peter Jacobs, John Hagen, Scott Monson, Nancy Clark, Tricia Wiechmann (city liaison), Sue Stevenson, Sue Wagner.

Absent: Liliana Silvestry and Gabe Garcia.

Meeting called to order at 6:37 p.m.

Agenda approved as amended with the addition of National Coming out Day under "New Business".

August 3, 2005, Minutes adopted as written.

Committee Reports

1. Forum/Panel Committee

The committee met again on August 12. The committee has tentatively selected the panelist and a moderator. A letter will be going out to formally invite their participation and to extend an invitation to join the committee as the event is planned.

The library is not available for September 29. A motion was made and carried to hold the event at City Hall in Council's Chambers, where taping of the event will be most efficient and produce a better quality tape for rebroadcast.

Coffee, cookies, and punch will be available after the panel.

2. Taste of Austin Committee

The Committee met on August 4, 2005. The committee spoke to Liliana to discuss her experience with serving food at the Ethnic Festival. Peter Jacobs also spoke to the local Health Inspector. From these discussions, it was determined that it may be wiser to reevaluate. The Commission also discussed having the event on a different evening than the panel. A motion was made and carried to postpone the Taste until a more appropriate time. The Committee will continue to meet and evaluate the best course. Further discussion was held to distinguish the Taste of Austin from the Ethnic Festival, and to establish this goal, the committee will explore a lunch event in the downtown area.

New Business

1. Ethnic Festival Report

The festival had a good turn out. The fishing booth was a hit. A request was made to send a thank you to Bruce Loeschen for painting the booth. It was suggested that the

booth also be used at the Dare to Care event sponsored by CARE Council on the 25th.

2. Newspaper

The forum committee will write the September article. Sue Stevenson will write a parenting article for October. The commission is to start thinking about future article topic ideas.

3. National Coming Out Day

National Coming out Day is October 11, 2005. The Commission discussed having a movie and discussion. Sue Stevenson will speak to Virginia to see if she would be interested in moderating.

Scott Monson will research other possible outlets to obtain trustworthy educational resources.

A motion was made and carried to recognize National Coming out Day. This matter will be discussed further at the September meeting.

4. Essay Contest

The topic still has not been announced.

Other Business

1. Banner

The Commission discussed purchasing a banner to display at our events. A logo and picture contest was suggested. The topic will carry over to the next meeting.

2. Possible Guest Speaker

Nancy Clark indicated her new student aid is a former member in the Mason City Council and was very involved in the Immigrant Project, which was funded by a grant. The Commission will explore having her come to present to the Commission regarding the Immigrant Project and the grant funding,

Meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

The next Human Rights Commission meeting will be held on September 21, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. at the Austin Public Library.

Submitted by Stephanie Haedt.