

**Human Rights Commission
Minutes for February 16, 2005**

Present: John Hagen, Gabe Garcia, Nancy Clark, Stephanie Haedt, Sue Stevenson, and Tricia Wiechmann (city liaison).

Absent: Peter Jacobs, Liliana Silvestry, Sue Wagner, and Scott Monson.

Meeting called to order 6:35.

Minutes approved as written.

Introduction of the new commissioner Sue Stevenson.

Old Business:

1. Essay Contest

Nancy went to Ellis and distributed the packets.

John was able to obtain \$100 from US Bank and \$50 from Rotary. Sue will contact the Knight of Columbus if we need more prize money.

The award will be presented on April 4 at the Council meeting. They will also have a picture taken with the mayor. All participants receive a certificate.

2. April Public Presentation/Forum

The subcommittee has not met since the last meeting. The committee will be exploring the educational emphasis. John did some searching. He was given the name of a woman in the Twin Cities that may be helpful, but has been unable to contact her yet. She may have ideas and materials. He also contacted the Mayo clinic that gave him additional information regarding the Diversity Council in Rochester, which has a program in the schools.

3. Mixed Blood

Tricia spoke to Charlie Moore of Mixed Blood. The cost is \$900 per performance. There is a discount of \$100 if you use the same venue. "Minnekanos" runs from September 19-October 16. Riverland would allow us to use their facility. The performance is 45 minutes and they can do a question and answer session afterwards. There are different performances throughout the year, but this is the most popular. Sue Stevenson was added to the subcommittee. A motion is made and carried to leave this matter open for further study and consideration of a later date. A new idea should be considered for the fall.

New Business:

1. Newspaper Articles

The deadline is the Friday one-week before the third Sunday.

Steph will be doing the March article.

The April article will be Liliana - a statistical article. Tricia will e-mail her.

Other Business

1. Regional Meeting

Tricia e-mailed Owatonna again and indicated that Austin would host if they were unable to. If/when Austin has the regional meeting, Steph will see if Kristen Manix from the Diversity Council in Rochester would come speak about their various programs.

Citizens Address the Committee

A question was raised regarding Black History month and the Commission responded that it does not single out a particular “month” or specific events, but instead focuses on more general education year round.

Next meeting is March 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Stephanie Haedt