

**Human Rights Commission
Minutes for February 28, 2006**

Present: Nancy Clark, Scott Monson, Stephanie Haedt, Peter Jacobs, John Hagen, Sue Stevenson, Liliana Silvestry, Marcel Edoh, Janet Anderson, and Tricia Wiechmann (city liaison).

Absent: None.

Meeting called to order at 6:34 p.m.

The agenda was adopted as written.

Minutes for January were adopted as written.

Committee Reports

1. Essay Contest

Nancy Clark provided the Commission with an update. We are expecting 70-80 essays from Ellis and 40 from Pacelli. We have not received them yet, but the deadline is March 1, 2006. Sue Stevenson will see if the Writers Group will read the essays and rate them. The Commission will divide the essays and preview them for basic compliance prior to submitting them to the Writers Group. Essays are to be picked up from Tricia on Tuesday and returned on Friday.

The Award will be presented on March 20, at 5:30 p.m. at the City Council Meeting. All participants will receive a certificate. Liliana will work on obtaining savings bonds for the winners. She will contact U.S. Bank, Community Bank, and First Farmers and Merchants. If need be, we will contact local service groups.

2. Banner

A sample of the logo "sticker" was presented to the Commission. Scott will create some mock-ups for the Commission's consideration.

3. Taste of Austin

The committee is still exploring the option of doing the taste of Austin in conjunction with Downtown Day in June 30. The committee will continue to evaluate whether the event is feasible and then speak to local restaurants to gauge likely participation.

4. SMAC (Sexual Minority Advocacy Council)

Peter attended the SMAC meeting. He provided the members with the HRC brochure and told them about the Commission. The Commission's continued involvement will be to periodically let SMAC know of our existence and maybe in co-sponsoring events in

the future.

5. MLK Event Recap

The Commission desires to keep this a community event and not an Austin High School event. We again discussed adding activities next year to involve more of the community, possibly including morning and/or evening events.

New Business

1. Election of Officers

Elections were held. The officers for 2006 are as follows:

Chair: Scott Monson
Vice-Chair: Peter Jacobs
Secretary: Stephanie Haedt

2. Newspaper Article

The March article will be written by Janet. The article will focus on Women's History in honor of National Women's History month. The April article will be a reprint of the winning essay and a thank you to those who participated, reviewed essays, and made monetary donations.

3. Volunteer Appreciation Event

The volunteer appreciation event will be held on March 30, 2006, at 5:30 p.m. Invitations are being mailed.

Citizens Addressing the Commission

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

The next Human Rights Commission meeting will be held on March 28, 2006, at 6:30 p.m., at the Austin Public Library.

Submitted by Stephanie Haedt