

**Human Rights Commission
Minutes for June 19, 2007**

Present: Peter Jacobs, Sue Stevenson, Bob Vilt, Liliana Silvestry, Ron Langrell, Nancy Clark, John Hagen, and Tricia Wiechmann (city liaison)

Absent: Janet Anderson and Stephanie Haedt

Meeting called to order at 6:10 p.m.

1. Agenda

Agenda was approved as written.

2. Minutes

May 22nd 2007 minutes were adopted as written.

3. Certificate of Appreciation (CoA) presentation

Dustin Gillard and Anthony Hernandez got the CoA for their work in creating videos. The latest is their latest film (available online) entitled "Our Duty," and won first prize in their age category. Dustin was here to receive the award.

4. Citizens Addressing the Commission

None.

5. Presentation from Centro Campecino

Trish was not able to get a response from Centro Campecino, so the presentation will have to be tabled. Trish tried calling and also sent a letter. Liliana gave Ron an overview of our previous discussion. Trish will follow up with them regarding future visit, with an option to send a few HRC members to meet with them instead of having them present at an HRC meeting.

6. Reports and Discussion

A. Cultural Heritage Festival

The HRC will have a table, including fishing game, at the CHF – sign-up sheet available. The event is August 26th at the band shell, 12 pm until 6:30 pm, and then it will move to Paramount.

B. Human Rights Award

Nancy and Sue are working on the details of the award that will be given to Bonnie Rietz. It will happen at the CHF at 4 pm. August meeting time was adjusted so that it falls before the CHF.

C. HRC shirts/logo discussion

Peter summarized info on shirts. After discussion, Liliana suggested we go with nametags instead. In addition, John suggested we consider buying iron-ons and printing our own designs. Trish will modify our basic "rainbow and kids" design and follow-up on the iron-ons

D. Next HRC Certificate of Appreciation recipient

We will hold off on further CoAs until September – no meeting in July, then Bonnie Rietz is getting the award in August. One possible recipient is Kathy Sforza, who teaches ELL and is taking kids to the Senior Center this summer.

E. Possible Educational Programs with Senior Center

Tabled because Janet is checking into this and she was not here.

7. New Business

A. Newspaper Coverage

John brought an interesting Star Tribune story about Chaska - Two Cultures, Two Worlds. About how Latina girls have to be one way at home and another way among their peers at school to fit in. Trish and John will get copies or originals for the commissioners.

A. Newspaper Articles

Julie Hale did not want to have an article written on the Diversity Club. Liliana came up with July article on freedom/Fourth of July but asked Bob to write it. August article will be regarding Bonnie's award, to be done by Nancy and Sue.

8. Other Business

A. Introductions and welcome to new member Ron Langrell, appointed to take Marcel's place.

B. Rotary Park dedication will be July 30th at 3:30 pm. Planting will also occur during the day.

C. Liliana tells a story of someone who was born in Texas but always thought he was an illegal immigrant because his parents never told him he was born in the USA. Liliana thinks this is not unusual. Discussion ensues related to positive coverage like the article John brought in. Consider inviting media here to discuss media coverage in general. Bob suggested talking to the new editor of the Herald.

D. Nancy gives update on Integration Committee. Look at bring programs here with Integration committee money and other contributions. Also some of the grant will be redistributed as mini-grants. Consider having HRC apply for money to fund workshops.

E. Discussed State Human Rights conference and whether or not anyone would attend.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

The next Human Rights Commission meeting will be held on August 14, 2007 at 6:00 pm.

Submitted by Peter Jacobs