

**Human Rights Commission
Minutes for September 28, 2010**

Present: Kirsten Lindbloom, Kathryn Martin, Jake Vela, Kristi Beckman, Amy Wangen, Steve Wald, Ron Langrell, Trish Wiechmann (city liaison).

Absent: Lysie Moritz and Aaron Stewart.

Guest: Dan Kane.

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Commissioner Lindbloom.

1. Agenda

Commissioner Wangen moved to adopt the agenda as written, second by Commissioner Beckman, motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of August 24, 2010 minutes

Commissioner Vela moved to approve the minutes of August 24, 2010, Commissioner Wald second, motion passed unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report

No expenditures since last meeting.

4. Blue Cross/ Blue Shield Grant

Commissioner Lindbloom reported that the City Council approved the final contract with BCBS. Required training for Commissioners and members of our partner entities will take place on October 1 and November 5. Trainees will attend one of those days for three hours. It will be held at the Hormel Historic Home. Commissioner Lindbloom reported that the trainers are donating their time toward in-kind donation to the HRC.

We may need to look at our work plan soon to strategize which items will need monies and which items will be in-kind donation. Commissioner Lindbloom asked for volunteers to assist her with that; Commissioners Beckman and Vela volunteered.

We will look at further community training in cultural competency. Immigration 101 will be given 3 times on October 19. Including a session at Riverland Community College, Austin High School and at an after school session for the rest of the district.

We will have to consider someone for the staff position the grant is providing for. The Welcome Center Board has agreed that we may hire their staff for the position. Some discussion was held on this matter. Commissioner Wangen moved to employ Welcome Center staff for our support

staff for the BCBS Grant. Commissioner Langrell second, motion passed unanimously with Commissioner Vela abstaining.

The Bremer Foundation grant has been submitted. It is a \$1,500.00 capacity building grant. This can be included as part of our match.

5. MLK Event

Commissioner Lindbloom asked for volunteers for the MLK Event sub-committee. Commissioners Wangen, Beckman, and Martin volunteered.

6. Reports/ Updates

Essay Contest – Discussion on an earlier time frame for students to write and turn in essays to us. Also to encourage the equity teams to be involved with the essay contest. Perhaps that would be the way to start a poster contest as well.

Commissioner Beckman brought an item to the Commission. Author Dennis Warner will be coming to Austin. He wrote a book called ‘Beads on A String’ which helps teach kids about diversity. After some discussion the commission decided we would like to help sponsor a community performance in the evening. The date would be in early November. Commissioner Langrell moved that we use \$700.00 toward this performance, Commissioner Wald second, motion passed unanimously.

7. Other Business

No other business.

8. Citizens Addressing the Commission

Mr. Dan Kane had only a question for the Commission. He asked if the HRC has paid the \$250.00 for “Take Me Out” as billed by Jerry Girton.

Commissioner Vela moved to adjourn at 6:42 pm. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Kathryn Martin, secretary