

**Human Rights Commission  
Minutes of November 22, 2011**

Present: Kristi Beckman, Lysie Moritz, Steve Wald, Jake Vela, Aaron Stewart, Amy Wangen, Ron Langrell, Kathryn Martin and Trish Wiechmann (city liaison).

Absent: Kirsten Lindbloom.

Guest: Dan Kane.

Commissioner Vela called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

1. Adopt/Amend Agenda

Commissioner Wald moved to adopt the agenda as written, Commissioner Moritz second.

2. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the minutes of October 25, 2011, Commissioner Wald second.

3. Treasurer's Report

\$1,500.00 was paid as approved for the MLK event speaker. Treasury balance is approximately \$1,500.00. The BC/BS grant monies have all been paid out.

4. Reports and Discussions

\* Listening group sub-committee – There were about 36 respondents from seven different ethnic cultures. Several themes and ideas were evident. More interpreters are needed, success coaches are a positive. Housing, law enforcement, school system, lack of social opportunities are challenges. (Complete list is attached) We will use the information to assist us in formulating 2012 goals and events.

\* Stage Left Event – check Facebook.

\* HRC Award – Two nominations have been received. Deadline is December 9. We will review the nominations at December meeting. Plaques are awarded to winner(s).

\* HRC Commission Replacement – Three terms will expire in December. Commissioners Wald and Langrell will stay on; Commissioner Wangen has chosen not to continue on the commission. Applications are on the web.

\* Chair position will be open in January – Discussion held on options to fill chair position; can be filled with one person or the by-laws allow co-chairs. Nominations will be on the agenda for December. Commissioner Langrell reminded us that some of the items we wanted to carry forward during discussions on our last development day have not yet been carried out and he

believes we should have a focus on our next leader and our next set of challenges. He would like to revisit those items.

\* MLK Event – The location of Frank W. Bridges Theatre is possible. Riverland is closed that day, but we may be able to use the theater. In the past Riverland has waived the rental fee. The tech person is paid. Perhaps there could be a welcoming meeting for Ms. Tutu prior to the event that evening.

## 5. New Business

\* HRC Remaining Budget – We will have a cost for posters for MLK. Considering that we put in for a Hormel Foundation Grant and did not get it and we will again receive a \$3,500.00 budget from the City of Austin, it was consensus that we should use the last of our budget toward a film festival in 2012. We may have to contact the City to request to carry over the money until 2012.

## 6. Other Business

\* Why Treaties Matter – Commissioners who had attended talked about their experiences and points of learning.

\* Taste of Nations – The committee has been formed and the date is set for April 14, 2012.

## 7. Communications

\* To get more applications for the HRC Award we will get information out to the media and to the faith community.

\* Our website should be revised by the end of this week. We should check the information for accuracy.

## 8. Citizens Addressing the Commission

\* Dan Kane addressed the Commission. He suggested that before we present films one or all of the Commissioners should review them. He asked if there will be a service element at the MLK event. Commissioner Beckman stated the equity team is working on a service presentation for that day. Commissioner Wangen stated that the grant information Mr. Kane had passed along required that a few thousand be reached and we did not feel like we could coordinate that large an event. He questioned as to the total cost of Naomi Tutu appearance. He asked if the members had the Nancy Franke Wilson report, and if we have the proposed by-law changes. He asked why the Commission reduced the time limit from 10 minutes to 3 minutes.

9. Next meeting will be at 6 pm on December 20, 2011.

Motion to adjourn per Commissioner Langrell. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathryn Martin