

Austin Human Rights Commission

Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 11, 2019 (February make-up)

Austin Public Library Large Conference Room – 6:15pm

Present: Sara Karki, Andre Goodlett, Jessica Swanson, Miguel Garate, Goutham Putta, Sarah Hartman, Dan Mueller

Absent: Oballa Oballa, Jenni Braaten

Citizens Visiting: None

Commissioner Karki called the meeting to order with quorum at 6:18pm.

1. Adopt Agenda

Andre moved to adopt, Sarah 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approve January Minutes

Andre moved to adopt, Sarah 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report

In Feb, we spent \$75.45 on screening films, and First Congregational made a donation of \$200, offsetting the venue costs. So far we have spent a net total of only \$225.45, leaving a balance of \$4,274.55.

4. Mission & Goals

a. Welcoming & Equitable Inclusion

Trish shared that AHRC will need to pay the \$450 for Welcoming America (reduced rate) this year, 2019 if we want to keep it. Andre moved that we pay it, Miguel 2nd. Motion passed unanimously. After paying the \$450 for Welcoming America membership, we will have **\$3824.55** remaining in the budget.

If AHRC wants to make a request for an increase to its annual budget from the City, it can make a detailed and justified request to accommodate the \$1,500 full membership rate that will come due in 2020. Andre and Jessica suggested taking time during April and May meetings to come up with a detailed budget request for 2020, and it was noted that this might require an additional off-cycle meeting as well.

- i. **CAIR** (Council on American-Islamic Relations) event in St. Paul 3/28 – Challenging Islamophobia. Andre and Sara expressed interest in going. Jessica moved that AHRC should pay the \$40 registration fee for up to 2 people to go. Sarah 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
- ii. **Baseline Data** – Gautham reported that he has provided some information to Sara, but has also inquired with two people from whom he has not yet heard back. He

will begin looking at websites and available information for boards and commissions and try to determine how many people of color are included, as well as how many females. The goal would be to tell the City Council that we believe the makeup of City government employees as well as the makeup of City boards & commissions should be reflective of the general population in Austin.

- iii. **Taste of Nations** 4/6/19 at Packer Arena – Looking for funding and volunteers. After looking at the sponsorship levels sheet, it was decided that a broader budgetary discussion was in order to include other considerations such as Welcoming Week, the Welcoming Interactive Conference, and any other spending we want to earmark. After that discussion, Andre moved that AHRC provide \$1,000 to Taste of Nations. Jessica 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
- iv. **Request for Play – Shhhh** – After larger budgetary discussion, it was decided that AHRC cannot provide funding for this play at this time.
- v. **Welcoming Interactive Conference** in Pittsburgh in May – AHRC has 2 free tickets to the conference, but would still incur expenses for travel/lodging/etc. It may be a useful experience in helping us better leverage resources, and also decide how keen we are to pay the full \$1,500 membership fee in 2020. Sarah is working on scholarships to cover some travel expenses. After larger budgetary discussion, Andre moved that AHRC provide up to \$1,000 to a member (or two, depending on whether scholarships come through) to attend. Jessica 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

b. **Gender & Sexuality**

Andre will email Marie Lechelt at RCC who manages their GSA, Gay-Straight Alliance. We have 3 films still – The Mask You Live In, Miss Representation, and Gender Revolution. We can potentially try to do something for Pride week this year.

5. **Roundtable**

Sara announced that UMN Extension would be doing a workshop called Hear My Voice: Leading Collaboratively, Tues 4/23-Thurs 4/25 in Mankato. Cost would be \$300, but there are scholarships available. <https://extension.umn.edu/event/art-hosting-and-harvesting-conversations-matter>

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.