

**Austin Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2023**

Members Appearing in Person: Davis (virtual), Miguel Garate (virtual), Stephanie Holtorf, An Le, Denver Ritz (virtual), Vickie Spyhalski, and Varinh Van Vugt

Absent: Joyce Poshusta and Trish Wiechmann

Commissioner Spyhalski called meeting to order at 5:32 PM with quorum present. Some members appeared virtually due to sickness.

1. Adopt/Approve Agenda – Commissioner Le motioned to adopt and approve the reading of the agenda. Commissioner Garate seconded to adopt and approve the reading of the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Approve Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Le motioned to adopt and approve the reading of the minutes. Commissioner Garate seconded to adopt and approve the reading of the minutes from November 27, 2023. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Adjust October minutes to accurately reflect who proposed the \$700 (Varinh)
3. Budget Report:
 - Started 2023 with \$6,500. To date, we have \$1,927.27 leftover.
 - Commissioners Vickie and Vugt came up with ways to invest
 - Commissioner Vugt:
 - Welcome Center working with union Unidos 2 workshops coming up.
 - ITIN (identification number for taxes to be able to do their taxes.
 - Limited on tax professionals that are able to do it. Additional cost.
 - This workshop would go over where to find this number, how to file, sending in original documents of immigration for 14 weeks unless going out of town to get filed.
 - 1,927.27:
 - \$1080 Welcome Center Iten and DL seminars
 - \$442.27 Taste of Nations
 - \$405 Clues
 - Brian abstained. Varinh abstain. Miguel abstained.
 - We will need to revote via email.
 - Costs: 2.5 hours per interpreter is \$112.50
 - Would like at least 2 Spanish interpreters per event $112.50 \times 2 = \$225$
 - Driver's license test and materials
 - 4 interpreters for the Driver's License would be \$450
 1. Spanish
 2. French
 3. Karen
 4. Karenni

Motion to approve \$225 two interpreters and \$450 four interpreters = \$675

Clues needs for signage traffic cones

- \$120 cones; 3 boxes of the chain \$95 = \$285, \$405 total + shipping

Taste of Nations

- \$442.27

4. MLK planning – budget and sub-committee:

- Day of Service: local organizations that need volunteers
- Salvation Army – Working Food Shelf on Open Days, restocking of items so that the workers can do the intake for individuals, serving community meals – Varinh can call Salvation Army with dates and how many meals, can also reach out to caterer.
- Get connected – check for dates working the community meal United Way Get Connected
- Ruby's Pantry location?
- Backpacking/Lunch Packing Day – United Way Brian is reaching out
- What can reasonably happen/get planned in 3 weeks
- What do we wear?
- Do we have anyone that is serve safe certified?

5. Other Business:

- None

6. Old Business:

- Sub-committee updates
- Land Acknowledgement sub-committee – placeholder
 - Parent group with schools through Minnesota Department of Education
- HRC branded items – table for now until the new year
- Social media education – placeholder (strike it maybe as guy hasn't gotten back to us)

7. Citizens Addressing the Commission:

- None

8. Commission Roundtable:

- None

Commissioner Ritz moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Le seconded the motion.

With no further business identified, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Holtorf, Secretary