

# APPROVED MINUTES

## Human Rights Commission

Monday, April 20, 2015

5:30 PM

McLeod Conference Room  
1800 West Old Shakopee Road

### I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS – 5:30 P.M.

- 1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call** Present: Whitney Batterson (5:39 p.m.), John Doble (5:33 p.m.), Sheila Fishman, Dennis Kane, Jessica Kietzman, Daniela Kunkel, Jared Leese, Johnathon McClellan
- Staff: Lorinda Pearson, Manager and Staff Liaison, Human Services Division  
Heather Lambert, Administrative Assistant, Human Services Division
- Guests: n/a
- Chair D. Kane called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present.
- 1.2 Approval of Minutes** M/J. McClellan, S/D. Kunkel unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2015 meeting.
- 1.3 Adoption of Agenda** M/S. Fishman , S/J. Leese unanimously carried to approve the amended agenda with the following changes: Add Need Volunteers to the film “Documented” under Announcements; Add Youth Homelessness Forum under Announcements; Delete D. Kane’s name from Diversity Day Activities – School Board Presentation under Continuing Business; Change New Business 5.3 to MN Valley Trail (not Train) ADA Complaint; and add Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan for Public Right-Of-Way under New Business.
- 1.4 Announcements** D. Kane stated Walt Bachman will be speaking on how the U.S. Army brought slavery to Minnesota in the 1800’s on Sunday, May 3, 2015 at 2:00 p.m., Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Bloomington. This event is sponsored by the Bloomington Historical Society.
- D. Kane stated the film “Documented” will be viewed on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at the Bloomington Civic Plaza in the Schneider Theater. This event is sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the Joint Community Police Partnership. A light dinner is at 5:30 p.m., the film will be shown at 6:30 p.m., with a discussion following at 8:00 p.m. J. Kietzman volunteered to staff the HRC Booth. D. Kunkel will check her calendar, and if unavailable, S. Fishman will assist with the HRC Booth.
- L. Pearson stated a Community Forum on Youth Homelessness will take place on Saturday, May 2, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. – noon at Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church. The event will feature panel discussions with representatives from Oasis for Youth, Bloomington Public Schools, MN Human Services, Hennepin County Office to End Homelessness, Suburban Host Home Program, etc. Commissioners are encouraged to attend. J. Doble will plan to attend on behalf of the HRC.
- ### II. PROGRAM – 5:35 P.M.
- 2.1 Meet and Greet/Overview of the State of the City Presentation** City Manager Jamie Verbrugge was unable to attend the April 20, 2015 HRC meeting, and has been rescheduled to present at the May 18, 2015 HRC meeting.

### III. CONTINUING BUSINESS

#### 3.1 2015 Work Plan

- Public Relations
  - Re-cap Annual Egg Hunt
 

J. Kietzman reported the Annual Egg Hunt on April 4, 2015 at the Normandale Lake Bandshell was well attended. She and W. Batterson volunteered at the HRC Booth and handed out multicultural crayons and bendy pens to children attending the event. L. Pearson stated 800+ children and over 2,000 people were in attendance.
  - District #271 Diversity Council (DDAC)
 

J. McClellan stated the DDAC discussed celebrating heritage and history months (e.g. Black History Month, Hispanic History Month, etc.). A program is being put together to be reviewed by the Superintendent. The DDAC is also looking at how to accommodate different religions in the schools, such as accommodating a student who desires to pray during the school day. In addition, discussion took place about the interaction of girls with boys during Physical Education, such as when swimming in a pool.
  - Diversity Day Activities
    - City Council Presentation
    - School Board Presentation
    - Booth Volunteers

D. Kane stated the 2015 Diversity Day t-shirt logo design winner will be presented at the City Council meeting following the HRC meeting. J. Doble will make the presentation. The logo design winner will be honored at the April 27, 2015 School Board meeting. J. Leese will represent the HRC at the School Board meeting. W. Batterson, D. Kunkel and J. McClellan will work the HRC Booth for Diversity Day at Jefferson High School on May 1, 2015 from 11:10 a.m. – 12:40 p.m. J. Kietzman and S. Fishman volunteered to work the Diversity Day HRC Booth at Kennedy High School on May 1, 2015 from 11:15 a.m. – 12:55 p.m. Olson Middle School will hold Diversity Day on May 22, 2015, and J. Kietzman volunteered for the HRC Booth. J. McClellan will see if he is available for the May 22, 2015 event.
  - JHS Diversity Committee
 

D. Kunkel reported the JHS Diversity Committee is reviewing which clubs will be allowed to have booths at Diversity Day. She expects the number of booths to be the same as previous years.
  - Community Enrichment Fair
 

D. Kane stated he will work the HRC Booth at the Community Enrichment Fair at Kennedy High School on April 23, 2015 with S. Fishman.
  - OEE Family Unity Day
 

D. Kane stated the Office of Educational Equity (OEE) is holding a Family Unity Day on April 25, 2015 at Oak Grove Middle School from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. J. Kietzman and J. Doble volunteered to work the HRC booth where they will be passing out multicultural crayons and activity books.
- Equality
  - Thurgood Marshall Events
    - Kennedy High School
    - Jefferson High School
    - School District General Assembly
    - City Event
      - Volunteers

D. Kane announced he attended the Thurgood Marshall Event at Kennedy High School today. There will also be an event at Jefferson High School on April 24, 2015 and a School District General Assembly on April 29, 2015. The HRC is hosting a screening of "Mr. Civil Rights: Thurgood Marshall and the NAACP", with a panel discussion, on May 12, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Bloomington Civic Plaza. J. Kietzman, J. Leese, W. Batterson, D. Kane and S. Fishman (J. McClellan will check his schedule) volunteered to help with registration, refreshments and the HRC Booth.
  - Cultural Competence
    - Re-cap Block Captains Workshop
 

D. Kane stated the HRC sponsored a speaker on mental illness from NAMI-MN (National Alliance on Mental Illness – Minnesota) at the Block Captains Workshop on March 21, 2015. L. Pearson stated she received positive feedback from the Police Chief.

- Re-cap Proclamation – Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month

J. Leese stated he accepted the Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month Proclamation at the April 6, 2015 Bloomington City Council meeting.

- “Transfer of Memory” Exhibit
- Community Event
- Volunteers

L. Pearson stated the “Transfer of Memory” Exhibit will run in the Bloomington Civic Plaza Lobby May 4 – 25, 2015. Postcards announcing the event will be mailed out soon. The HRC is sponsoring a community event on May 19, 2015, featuring Fred Amran, a Holocaust survivor. S. Fishman, J. Kietzman, D. Kane and J. Leese (able to arrive at 6:30 p.m.) volunteered to work registration, the reception and the HRC booth at the community event.

- Leadership
- PACER’s Unity Awards

J. Kietzman stated she met with the Director and Youth Advisory Board for PACER’s Unity Awards. PACER will be using the Bloomington Civic Plaza Lobby and the Schneider Theater for the Awards ceremony on June 9, 2015. The Awards Ceremony will honor individuals who have helped take a stand against bullying. PACER is also working with Pizza Rev in Edina for a community event on May 30, 2015, where a portion of proceeds from pizza sales will be donated back to PACER. J. Kietzman will share the Pizza Rev advertisement with the HRC.

- Re-cap Volunteer Proclamation

D. Kane stated he and J. Kietzman were present for the Volunteer Proclamation at the April 6, 2015 City Council meeting.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

**4.1 Re-cap Volunteer Recognition**

S. Fishman stated the Volunteer Recognition breakfast took place on April 18, 2015 at the Bloomington Knights of Columbus and was well attended. Many City Council members were there, along with the City Manager. J. Kietzman stated she would encourage more youth volunteers to attend.

**4.2 Re-cap State of the City Address**

J. McClellan stated the State of the City Address took place on March 18, 2015 at the Radisson Blu. It was a good opportunity to learn about what is going on in the City of Bloomington. Commissioners J. Kietzman, J. McClellan and D. Kane all attended the State of the City.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 Nomination of Slate of Officers 2015 – 2016**

D. Kane stated the Executive Committee consists of a Chair, First Vice-Chair and Second Vice-Chair. A motion is required to accept a Slate of Officers at the April HRC meeting, with a vote taking place on the Slate at the May meeting. The Slate of Officers for the upcoming year include:

- Chair: Dennis Kane
- First Vice-Chair: Jessica Kietzman
- Second Vice-Chair: Whitney Batterson

M/J. McClellan, S/D. Kunkel to unanimously approve the Slate of Officers as presented.

**5.2 Review of Bylaws**

D. Kane stated he has reviewed the HRC Bylaws (Rules of Procedure), and no changes are recommended at this time.

**5.3 MN Valley Trail ADA Complaint**

L. Pearson stated the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has proposed an additional accessible trail be installed in the Minnesota River Valley. State Representative Ann Lenczewski has contacted Chair D. Kane and asked for the HRC to consider weighing in on this issue. After discussion, M/J. McClellan, S/J. Kietzman carried to postpone a decision on

the HRC showing support of an accessible trail, until more information is collected. D. Kane stated the Executive Committee will work on this.

**5.4 Quarterly Complaint Report**

D. Kane reported the 2015 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Complaint Report is included in Commissioner packets. There were no inquiries for the quarter covering January, February and March.

**5.5 Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan for Public Rights-of Ways**

L. Pearson stated the draft of the City of Bloomington Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan for Public Rights-of-Way was emailed to Commissioners for review. Paper copies of the Plan were also distributed.

**VI. FINAL COMMENTS**

There were no final comments.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

M/J. Doble , S/J. McClellan unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m.