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September 21 2011 Meeting Minutes

Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes September 21, 2011

Present: Sheri Baron, Marlyssa Briggett, Christine Carney, Ellen Caulo, Gary Horowitz, Nick Minton, Chair Nancy Rhoads, Bill Shea, Nancy Sweeney, Robin Varghese

Guest: Steve Pereira, Chief Ryan **Absent:** Stacy Davison, Jorge Loayza, Suzie Talukdar **Welcome new commissioners**
 Chair Rhoads welcomed Ellen Caulo and Robin Varghese to serve on the Arlington Human Rights Commission.

Review of August Minutes – Minutes accepted as amended **Open Forum** –

Guest, Steve Pereira reviewed the year thus far, relating that the students at the High School seem to have some bad feelings this year which is causing a bit of unrest, especially among the METCO students. There have been meetings with the school administration, parents and the AHRC have attended some meetings in Boston. Mr. Pereira. Suggested mediation may be the answer. After much discussion Chair Rhoads asked how the AHRC could help and suggested that maybe the AHRC could attend another meeting with the parents and possibly the principal. She assured him that the AHRC would keep in touch with him and work with him in dealing with the situation.

Guest, Chief Ryan updated the Commissioners on the Crash Data Report and explained that there have been many challenges since his last meeting with us. He explained that the software has been upgraded but due to budget constraints it is difficult to sustain the program. He broke down the Crash Data handouts explaining the various steps that are taken to get the results of the report.

Incidents and Complaints –No report this month –

Appointments – Chair Rhoads reminded commissioners to renew their appointments with the various department heads so as to keep our records up to date.

Consideration of HRC Award

After much discussion it was decided that all commissioners should consider who the award should go to and come up with an idea for the program.

Reports

Town Day – general feeling is that all went well – it was a beautiful day this year and many visited our table. There were four gift certificates and a penny count that many seemed to enjoy. Names were picked at the meeting and the office will be in touch with the winners.

Follow up with Caryn Malloy – no answer at this time

Follow up with Laura Weiner - Chair Rhoads will continue to work with her and Joan Roman - possibility of creating a brochure for realtors of the Town and the Housing Corporation – the subject of maintaining civil discourse at meetings was also discussed.

Follow up with High School/ METCO – Chair Rhoads will be in touch with EDCO to investigate the costs of mediation with some of the school issues previously spoken about with Mr. Pereira. The next METCO Family meeting will be on October 3rd at the Dimick Center. Commissioners were invited to attend.

Sub-committees – Commissioners signed up for school assignment and will meet with principals :
Robin Varghese, Brackett; Ellen Caulo, High School; Sheri Baron, Hardy, Marlissa Brigggett, Peirce; Nancy Sweeney, Stratton; Suzie Talukdah, METCO; Christine Carney, Bishop; Stacy Davison, Ottoson

Motion to adjourn was made and approved. Submitted by: Marylynn Carnell
Staff Assistant

**Please note the next AHRC meeting will be on
Wednesday, October 26th at Robbins House.**