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October 15 2008 Meeting Minutes

Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes – Final October 15, 2008

Present: Marlissa Briggett, Christine Carney, Vice Chair Vita Cohen, Stacy Davison, Christine Deshler, Jorge Loayza, Chair Nick Minton, Nancy Rhoads, Marlene Schultz, Bill Shea, Nancy Sweeney

Absent: Sheri Baron

Open Forum – There were no guests this evening.

Review of September Minutes – Commissioner Sweeney made a motion to accept the September Minutes - motion seconded by Commissioner Shea – there was one abstention.

Race and Place Dialogue Series Update – The first session will be next Tuesday, October 21st at Robbins Library at 7:00pm – all commissioners are encouraged to attend.

Arlington Police Department Update - Chief Ryan gave a detailed explanation of how the Crash/Data program evolved from profiling to racially biased policing. Because of so many complaints Chief Ryan invited the Racial Justice Department of Northeastern University to visit Arlington to check the data collection and reported that the original study of year one was inconclusive. New software was purchased and has worked very well with traffic analysis. Lt. Conroy gave a presentation on the history of year two and three. Capt. Serson explained how the new data collection enables the department to red flag problem officers and will implement programs to help solve them. Chief Ryan asked that the commission continue to work with the department and explained that overall the culture of the APD organization is good but feedback is necessary to keep on top of things.

Networks and Coalitions –

- a. **ACT** – concerns about overlapping services were expressed but because of the lateness of the hour this subject was tabled until next meeting.
- b. **MAHRC update** – no report this month.

Incident and Complaints –

The mediation time has passed regarding the Colonial Village complaint but after much discussion a motion was made to have Commissioner Shea meet with the respondent. Vice Chair Cohen seconded the motion.

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Subcommittee Reports –***Dialogues –***

Bullying Dialogue - is set for December 3rd at Robbins Library.

January Dialogue - *(date to be announced)*

Disabilities Dialogue – March 4th

Schools – no report this month

Policies and Procedures – no report this month

Rapid Response/Publicity – listing is in the process of being updated.

Other Business –

Town Day – Drawing for gift certificates took place tonight and the winners are:

Betty Bettencourt, Ristorante Olivio

Laurie Graham, Lady Siam

Sherry Hahn, Punjab

Ara Suvajian, Shanghai Village

Robert Tosi, Not Your Average Joe's

Letters of thanks and certificates will be mailed asap.

New Appointments –

Chair Minton introduced and welcomed Stacy Davison to the Commission.

Please note the change of date and place of next meeting.

The next AHRC meeting will be held at the Arlington Senior Center, 27 Maple Street) The Cooperative Elder Room – 1st Floor) at 8:00 p.m. on November 12th.

Chair Minton moved to adjourn. Commissioner Carney seconded. The meeting was concluded.

Submitted by:

Marylynn Carnell

Staff Assistant