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Human Rights Commission Minutes 03/17/2004

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES-FINAL

MARCH 17, 2004

IN ATTENDANCE

Cecilia Akuffo

Sheri Baron

Marlissa Briggett

Chris Carney

Chris Deshler

Kevin McGann

Sue McHugh

Nancy Rhoads

Bill Shea

Nancy Sweeney

Jim Webster

ABSENT

Kim Lam

N. Minton

Bill Shea called the meeting of the Human Rights Commission to order at 8:02 PM at the Jefferson-Cutter House.

CITIZENS OPEN FORUM

There were no matters presented during the Open Forum.

STEVE PEREIRA-METCO DIRECTOR

Mr. Pereira gave a summary of the Metco Program past and present explaining that currently there are 96 students in Arlington (23% Latino, 77% Afro American) participating in 4 elementary schools, the middle school, and the high school. The program is currently on the verge of losing the funding. There are 32 districts

Statewide involved in the Metco Program. It was decided the Commissioners would attend the next Metco meeting to meet with the Boston families on April 5th from 7-8pm. All Commissioners are to meet in front of the AHS at 6:15pm for a bus ride to the meeting. Mr. Pereira encourages a "just reaching out" message to the parents recognizing Metco and supporting the program. He also would like:

- Committees/Commissions in Arlington ie. MLK, Vision2020, AHRC to support Metco and endorse the program.
- Yearly involvement in lobbying for the Metco Program at the State House in person and/or sending a letter of support signed by the Commission.

REVIEW MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the February minutes with these corrections:

Page 2:

- Diane McCloud: correction -Diane McLeod
- Bollerimi Project: correction-Laramie Project

COMPLAINTS AND INCIDENTS

There were no complaints or incidents reported.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Dialogues: There will be a dialogue "In Support of Gay Marriage" Tuesday March 30th at 7:30 PM at the Fox Library. The

2nd Advocate article will be submitted for publication the week of 3/28/04.

- Rapid Response/ Publicity: Sheri Baron will report back next meeting after she speaks with Jon Searson the Community Safety Liaison.

APRIL STRATEGIC PLAN MEETING

The April meeting will be held on 4/21, 7:00pm – 10:00pm, at the Whittemore Robbins House. A new strategic plan will be developed utilizing a facilitator. A light dinner will be served.

NEW BUSINESS

- All Commissioners are to get website info to Jim Webster to begin the website development. This will be discussed at the strategic plan meeting in April.
- Have a mechanism to announce new chair and vice-chair yearly.
- Make changes to the Arlington Advocate contact groups-make updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.