



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Human Rights Commission Minutes 05/17/2001

MAY 17, 2001

Commissioners in Attendance Commissioners not in Attendance

Marlissa Briggett Jim Webster
 Chris Carney Esther Kingston-Mann
 Chris Deshler Nancy Sweeney
 Chris Kita
 Nick Minton
 Kevin McGann
 Susan McHugh
 Roger Rosen
 Bill Shea
 Mary Ann Sullivan, staff assistant

Sheri Baron called the meeting of the Human Rights Commission to order at 8:03 PM at the Jefferson-Cutter House.

REVIEW MINUTES

There are two corrections on the April 18, 2001 attendance:

- ° Add J. Webster to Not in Attendance column.
- ° Add N. Minton to In Attendance column.

There are two corrections in the New Business section (last bullet):

- ° Change Gus Masterson to Gus Martinson
- ° Change Mr. Masterson to Mr. Martinson

COMPLAINTS AND INCIDENTS

There was one complaint reported by the Wild Women Outfitters store, but they did not press charges.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

It was a great workshop! Thank you to Bill Shea for hosting it in his building offering a wonderful atmosphere. In regards to the AHRC Strategic Plan page 3 Priority Goals Action Plan:

- 1) The Dialogue Committee needs to select a chair or how it will be done.
 Note: The committee will need to meet to tie up information for the June 12, 2001 dialogue on Racial Profiling.
- 2) The Anniversary Celebration Committee does not need to meet right away. Chris Deshler thinks the committee should decide when to meet. Chris Carney will notify subcommittee. The first AHRC meeting was held on January 25, 1994 (10-year celebration).
- 3) The Increase Investigations Committee will be discussed at the next AHRC meeting when Kevin McGann will be available.
- 4) The Subcommittee Committee needs to decide on when to meet. A change to the Publicity/Rapid Response line changes Chris K. to Chris
- 5) The Diversity Committee will look at the hiring practices in Education. Sue McHugh will call Mr. Martinson to set up an appointment. Marlissa Briggett would like to attend.

Subcommittee information:

- ° There should be a 2-day meeting notice.
- ° Use a copy of the meeting notice to publish open meeting (included in this packet).
- ° Included in this packet is a list of Room reference contacts to call to reserve meeting rooms.
- ° Submit minutes to library to comply with open meeting laws.

FOLLOW UP ON SCOUTS

Chris Deshler and Sue McHugh reviewed the draft letter written for the School Committee. There were a couple of changes that Sheri will make before sending out. The Commissioners agreed that the D.O.E. attachment be included with letter and that the letter be addressed to Kay Donovan and the School Committee.

SPRING DIALOGUE PLANNING

Chris Carney updated the Commission on the June 12, 2001 Spring Dialogue featuring Racial Profiling. Andy Tarsy of the ADL will be the presenter. It will be held Tuesday June 12, 2001 at 7:30PM at the Robbins Library (see attached flier).

SPRING BOOK GROUP

The next Book Group Discussion will be next fall (preference was expressed for October).

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Gus Martinson cannot attend an AHRC Meeting for a while due to his family and work commitments. The Education subcommittee will call Gus Martinson to set a meeting time during his work hours.
- 2) Sheri Baron will invite the Town Manager to the next AHRC meeting.
- 3) Sheri Baron reported that the MCAD check was cut and the Commission should be receiving it soon. She called Patsy Kraemer to alert her that it will be coming.
- 4) Possible future Dialogue subjects are:
 - ° Discrimination
 - ° Sexual Harassment
- 5) Next meeting agenda item: discuss ways to increase the diversity of commissioners to include more people of color. The commissioners need to update the term list for reappointments. It was suggested that each nominating body be invited to a meeting to experience and see the commission. The three appointing bodies are:
 - ° School Committee
 - ° Town Manager
 - ° John Worden

Chris Deshler suggested the commission should have an agenda, a specific reason for the appointing body to be there. Maybe perhaps ask what their selection process is? Have a strategy to approach these bodies with before inviting them to a meeting. Next meeting agenda item: strategy approach for what the commission would want from the appointing bodies.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Submitted by Mary Ann Sullivan.