

MOORHEAD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MARCH 14, 2006
7:00 PM
MOORHEAD CITY HALL
FIRST FLOOR SOUTH CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDANCE:

Current Members Present: Phyllis Emmel, Del Rae Williams, Erin Clark, Tammie Yak, Dr. Richard Adler, Brian Arett, Charles Larson

Members Absent: Kevin Kopperud, Steve Grineski, Greg Lemke, Dorene Neeland, Verna Paul

Others Present: Kim Wangler, City of Moorhead staff

Lynn Kovash, Assistant Superintendent, Moorhead Public Schools

Mike Kunza, Metro COG

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Dr. Adler called the meeting to order.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Action taken: Dr. Adler approved agenda.

MEETING MINUTES: Action taken: Arett motioned to approve the February 14th, 2006 minutes, Williams seconded. Motion is carried unanimous vote.

INPUT ON 2007-2011 METRO TRANSIT PLAN: Kunza presented information on the Metro Transit Plan and asked the commission for input on transportation needs in the community. Dr. Adler suggested the Ride Share program. (www.rideshareonline.com) Williams informed Kunza that Mujeres Unidas teaches non-English speaking people how to drive. Other ideas discussed were the Business Bus system and the Ride to Work program.

MOORHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Kovash reviewed the Moorhead Area Public Schools curriculum process with the Moorhead Human Rights Commission. The curriculum follows the Minnesota Department of Education standards. Ethnic story selections are part of the curriculum. Yak asked about curriculum that focuses on true information, some historical curriculum does not tell the true story. Learning guides are currently being created by Moorhead Schools for use of the Human Rights curriculum - This is My Home.

Wangler will ask Kevin Kopperud to bring the bullying policy to the April MHRC meeting.

2006 BUDGET: The Moorhead Human Rights Commission reviewed the 2006 budget. CDBG funding was cut slightly for 2006. The MHRC Executive Committee will meet to discuss recommendations of allocation of funds. The Executive Committee will be meet April 5th at 6:00 p.m. at Atomic Coffee.

REPORT CARD INITIATIVE JOINT COMMITTEE: The purpose of the Human Rights Report Card is to gauge how the community is doing in regards to Human Rights, as well as setting measurable goals. The Fargo Human Relations Commission and MSUM are working with Kristy Rudelius-Palmer, Co-Director of the U of M Human Rights Resource Center, to meet these goals. Dr. Adler suggests the education committee take part in this initiative. Arett suggested contacting Amy Phillips when an MHRC representative is selected to serve on the Know Your Rights Campaign.

CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION DISCUSSION: A few Commission members feel that more diversity is needed on the MHRC board, and would like to have a representative from the New American or Latino community. Williams and Arett will assist with recruitment of a new member. To help recruit new members it was suggested to use the message, "No Volunteer Left Behind," on promotional materials and at events. The MHRC will also participate in the Mujeres Unidas's Family Fiesta Day on April 29th, 2006 in Dilworth.

MOORHEAD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

UPDATE: The MHRC strategic meeting is planned for Saturday, May 6th from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Yak is working on a Bremer grant to cover expenses. As part of the planning meeting Yak will present a Human Rights power point presentation.

FM PRIDE REQUEST: *Action taken:* The MHRC approved to have a ¼ page Moorhead Human Rights Commission ad in the FM Pride magazine of \$140 to support the Pride Festival. Wangler will design and send to FM Pride.

OTHER BUISNESS: Yak donated 3 Human Rights Education books to the Commission and will be available in Wanglers office.

The Minnesota Department of Human Rights Open Forum is scheduled for March 30th from 5:00 – 7:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers. The panelists have been selected, Wangler is working with MN Department of Human Rights on promotion and refreshments have been donated from Hornbachers. Emmel felt that the only group (Native Americans) that has been discriminated against by our government is not invited to be on the panel and since the topic is Race and National Origin they should be represented. Williams did explain that the focus is on immigration so this is why the current panelists were selected. Wangler will ask MN Department of Human Rights to include immigration as part of the press release.

Adler reported that the Speech Learning Hearing Sciences (SLHS) Department at MSUM is hosting Michael McKinley, a nationally known motivational speaker on March 22, 2006 from 7:00-8:00 pm at the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead.

Dr. Adler adjourned the meeting.