

MOORHEAD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

May 9, 2006

7:00 PM

MOORHEAD CITY HALL

FIRST FLOOR SOUTH CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDANCE:

Current Members Present: Phyllis Emmel, Del Rae Williams, Dr. Richard Adler, Brian Arett, Charles Larson, Kevin Kopperud, Dorene Neeland, Erin Clark

Members Absent: Tammie Yak, Steve Grineski, Greg Lemke, Verna Paul

Others Present: Kim Wangler, City of Moorhead staff

Enson Maattala, Moorhead citizen

Alex Elsberg, Moorhead citizen

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

AGENDA AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA: *Action taken:* Emmel approved the agenda, seconded by Williams. Motion is carried unanimous vote.

MEETING MINUTES: *Action taken:* Arett motioned to approve the April 11, 2006 minutes, Williams seconded. Motion is carried unanimous vote.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: Enson Maattala shared points of information in regards to racial slurs in a 1997 Fargo Forum article and a concern about a Public Service Announcement on WDAY in 2004.

DR. ADLERS REPORT: Adler reported that the Strategic Planning Workshop will be postponed to July or September. The commission felt a September rescheduling date might be better than July due to summer vacations and other conflicts.

Dr. Adler met with Bruce Messelt, City Manager and Mayor Mark Voxland. The strategic planning grant was discussed and felt it was something the commission should be doing. The approval for the Otto Bremer Grant application will be presented to City Council on May 15th, 2006 at 7:00 pm. The City of Moorhead is the fiduciary agent for the grant and the City will provide financial assistance of \$1,000. If the grant is received it is important to follow the city ordinance and the rules of practice and procedure when developing the strategic plan. Discussion at the workshop should include the consideration of a joint Human Rights Commission with Fargo. The commission recommended inviting Mayor Voxland, Bruce Messelt, or city staff to the workshop. Adler will talk to Yak about workshop agenda.

Other items discussed were the allocation of Wangler's time as the liaison of the MHRC, that CDBG funding is decreasing each year, and it was suggested to continue to apply for grants.

The Mat Paratransit Appeals Process was discussed and it was decided the Moorhead Human Rights Commission should not be the deciding body in the appeals process. The Transit Advisory Committee will be making the final decision in the case of an appeals process.

Action taken: Arett motioned to have Wangler request funds of \$18,000 for the 2007 Human Rights budget, with a prior discussion with City Council to decide how funds should be spent and then to determine the amount to formally allocate to the Human Rights 2007 budget, seconded by Williams. Motion is carried unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

REPORT CARD INITIATIVE JOINT COMMITTEE: Amy Phillips, MSUM, is coordinating the meeting and a date has not been set.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Yak will be setting up a meeting with the HRC Education Committee members next week.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT: A Human Rights Education Booth was set up as part of the Family Fiesta Day. The committee has not met.

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION: An educational activity will be presented at next months meeting.

FAMILY FIESTA DAY: The event went very well with good representation from Moorhead City Council, Moorhead School Board and other dignitaries. The MHRC set up booth.

HATE CRIME PREVENTION AND RESPONSE WORKSHOP: Approximately 50 people attended the Hate Crime Prevention and Response Workshop on April 28th with Law Enforcement training in the morning and a community session in the afternoon. To follow up with this training, community volunteers signed up for the Training of the Trainers program.

OTHER BUISNESS: At the June 13th meeting the commission will review the Human Rights Ordinance and Rules and Practices.

Arett adjourned the meeting, Kopperud seconded. Meeting was adjourned.