

MONMOUTH COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, November 2, 2009/3:30p.m. – **5:00 p.m.**

AG Building Conference Room

4000 Kozloski Road, Freehold, NJ 07728

Agenda

Attendees: Earl Teasley, Linda Zucaro, Carolyn Schwebel, John Schwebel, Julius Ramsey, Sondra Cannon, David Cohen, Phil Smith, Sherri West, Leroy Hill.

- I. Call to Order – Salute to the Flag
- II. The minutes of the September 2009 Executive Board meeting were approved.
- III. Chair’s Report – Earl mentioned being vigilant to issues of accessibility after a recent situation he experienced with one of his relatives. The issue of appropriate access at a public function is one that all should be aware of and monitor. He suggested all be mindful of access and not take anything for granted.
- IV. Treasurer’s Report – Phil Smith has not gotten an update from Louise, but expects to have a report by the next meeting. Reimbursements from the expenses incurred at Latino Day, which was a great success, have been processed. Earl estimates that we will have approximately \$600 left at the end of the year. Linda requested that we encumber between \$300 and \$400 of this year’s expenses for the Youth Core Workshop in April of 2010 to use for expenses for some of the speakers. There was also the suggestion to buy Monmouth County Fair handouts to supplement our existing supply. Earl asked Phil to get an exact figure from Louise, with an order to be placed quickly. Earl will ask Kay Guadagno, Resource Development, to order supplies.
- V. Core Team Reports
 - A. Police and Community Relations – David Cohen reported that Dave D’Amico led the meeting, and Chief Kinmon agreed to stay on as Chair, with Lt. George Corbin helping him on the committee. Dave reported on various bias crimes throughout the county. Earl expressed hope that work on a future workshop at the Simon Wiesenthal Center will be organized, as well as other organizational issues with the committee. Earl plans to follow up with Dave.
 - B. Youth Awareness – Linda Zucaro reported on two meetings recently held. The next Affirmative Action Workshop will be held at the Ag Building on April 16, 2010, on “Cyberbullying,” and the team is working on the program. Linda requested that Earl contact the County Superintendent to send a representative to the team, preferably someone that sits on the Roundtable. The next meeting is on November 30, 2009, at 4:30PM at the Presbyterian Church, Shrewsbury. Another activity for the Youth Core Team is working with Hamilton Township to develop a school HRC. Linda has been working on creating guidelines for school human relations commissions, and will continue to do so. Pat

Collum, Linda Zucaro, and Leroy Hill have agreed to meet with the Hamilton group, and several other people from the MCHRC have been asked to participate, with dates still to be determined. Third, youth representation on the committee has been a long-time goal, and Sondra Cannon has identified a prospective member, which will be invited to a future meeting. Sondra followed up with a description of Casey Baldwin, Middletown, who spoke at a recent gathering at the Frank Talk Bookshop in Red Bank. She is part of a group, "Project Teen Race," a diverse group speaking on the topic of race, is a student at the Communications High School, has received an award from Princeton for her work on diversity, and Sondra suggested that she would be a valuable resource for our commission. Linda plans to reach out to Casey and to invite her and her sister to the February 1st meeting.

- C. Economic Issues – Sondra sent out a survey to all members of the core team but received only two responses. She wondered if we can keep the core team viable. Earl mentioned that if the existing members are not participating on this core team, they need to work on another team. This raised the issue of how we can develop a greater commitment among the members to their respective core teams. John suggested culling the list of members to determine active members, and a brief discussion ensued, perhaps including the prospect of ex officio members whose service to the committee could be utilized when needed. Linda asked if Earl would have time to call the nine members of the committee, and Earl agreed.

VI. Standing Committees & Support Teams

- A. Membership – Leroy contacted Samantha Aquila and Tyler Blackmore with no response. Lt. Corbin was also contacted twice, but no response. Linda asked about Dr. Williams George, Superintendent in Hazlet, and requested that Leroy reach out to him.
- B. Communications – Carolyn mentioned Linda's work with Hamilton Township, and read an August communication from Howard Birdsall in response to the letter on diversity leadership at Brookdale, requesting best practices in hiring for diversity. This issue would be perfect for the Economic Core Team.
- C. Incident Response and Reporting – Dave reported no calls this past month.
- D. Resource Development – No new developments.
- E. Immigration Working Group – Earl has invited both the Sheriff and Prosecutor to discuss the implementation of 287g. Earl will invite the Sheriff to speak at the Jan. 4, 2010, meeting.

VII. Old Business

- A. Ad Hoc Committee to Review By-Laws – will take place at the Full Commission meeting in December.
- B. Other Old Business – none discussed.

VIII. New Business

A. Red Bank Letter – Earl received from MCHRC member J.T. Pierson, a copy of an anonymous letter “Red Bank Illegal Alien Depot,” identifying suggested actions of a vigilante nature against “illegal aliens,” and business establishments which employ them. Earl asked the Red Bank MCHRC if they were planning to respond. Dave Pascale, Chair, replied that they have taken no action to date. The Executive Committee suggested that the Red Bank Human Relations Advisory Committee should respond prior to our taking action, though the County MCHRC supports the Red Bank Committee in this effort. Earl will try to attend their next meeting to give support as well.

B. Other New Business -

1. The New Jersey Human Relations Council is holding their 14th annual Leadership Council on Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009, in Trenton at the Hughes Justice Complex.
2. John Schwebel mentioned the issue of accessibility for the new Rt. 36 Sea Bright Bridge, with an article by the *Asbury Park Press* drawing attention to the need for additional curb cuts in the sidewalks on the bridge.

VIII. Calendar

- a. Next Full Commission Meeting – December 7, 2009, 3:30 p.m.
- b. Next Executive Committee Meeting – January 4, 2010, 3:30 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment at 5:00 PM

Submitted by Secretary Sherri West