

MONMOUTH COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Full Commission Meeting

Monday, April 12, 2010/3:30p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

AG Building Conference Room

4000 Kozloski Road, Freehold, NJ 07728

Attendance: Sherri West, Philip Smith, Sondra Cannon, Carolyn Schwebel, John Schwebel, Kay Guadagno, Ted Lee, Angel Quiles, Martin Lefsky, Fatima Jaffari, Dale Daniels, Toby Shylit-Mack, Chief Daryl Breckinridge, Dave Cohen, Ray Rodriguez, Pat Collum, Rev. Ricky Pierce, Charanjit and Inderjit Sawhney.

- I. Call to Order – Carolyn Schwebel called the meeting to order and expressed pleasure that so many members that had not attended for some time were there. All participants introduced themselves.
- II. Approval of Last Meeting’s Minutes- Approved.
- III. Chair’s Report- No report
- IV. Treasurer’s Report – Phil Smith, Treasurer, circulated a report for expenses from last year, indicating that we had \$700+ dollars left over from last year, and, as a result of budget cuts, our allotment this year is \$2850 (down from \$3500, roughly a cut of 10%).
- V. Core Team Reports
  - A. Youth Awareness - Linda Zucaro was not present, but Pat Collum discussed the Cyberbullying workshop to take place on Friday, April 16, 2010, from 8:30-12:30PM at the Ag Building in Freehold. Present enrollment is now at 69 pre-registered, with 75+ attending. He described the program and speakers, including Prevention First, Monmouth County Prosecutor’s Office, Verizon Communications, and a speaker on the legal issues. Marty Lefsky mentioned that most of the Affirmative Action Officers are planning to attend. Carolyn Schwebel sent out a press alert to local outlets, and Pat Collum thanked John for printing the certificates.
  - B. Police and Community Relations – Daryl Breckinridge will be on this team and indicated that either Chief Kinmon, Asbury Park, or he, will be at each meeting.
  - C. Economic Issues – Sondra Cannon reported a memberless committee at present but the premier issue throughout the state is COAH, affordable housing.
- VI. Standing Committees & Support Teams
  - A. Membership – Carolyn explained that the Chair, Leroy Hill, has asked for a leave of absence.

- B. Communications – Carolyn mentioned the communications with members that have missed more than 4 consecutive meetings and the next Executive Board will take these up.
- C. Incident Response and Reporting – No report.
- D. Immigration Working Group – Sherri continues to work with the League of Women Voters and mentioned Cecilia Reynolds working with an Immigration Services group at Monmouth University.
- E. Resource – Kay Guadagno, Chair, has been researching handouts for the County Fair and Phil, Linda, and Kay will work on this further.

## VII. Old Business

- A. Ad Hoc Committee to Review By-Laws – No updates because the Commission still does not have a complete copy of the Bylaws. If any member does see something in the bylaws they would like to discuss please send information to Earl.
- B. Other Old Business – Earl and others have been working to improve attendance with the core teams and there was a brief discussion about the relevance of core teams— are they still relevant, should they be organized differently.

Several suggestions were made:

Toby Shylit-Mack mentioned that having a core team meeting right before the main meeting might improve attendance. Some commented that the time of day is a problem.

Sherri West suggested a survey of members to find the best times, days via a poll, and she offered to create one and distribute to members before the next Full Commission meeting.

Sondra mentioned that one priority of the Commission retreat last year was the streamlining of the Commission to work on one issue. In addition she mentioned using the issue(s) to recruit new members.

Pat Collum also wondered if we should rethink the core teams and redefine with a new mission set by members themselves. A mission statement and annual goals by each of the teams is needed. Sondra responded that since the formation of the present core team structure, the community has become more active, so we could be duplicating activities already underway. When Kendall and Casey Baldwin spoke, they spoke about a youth-level group that could be created in the County as an example of one initiative we could tap into.

Several raised the question of how we can create the next generation of participants for MCHRC. Toby Shylit-Mack discussed having someone from 180 come to speak, and so, there are many interwoven projects that could attract more members and community participants.

Chief Breckinridge mentioned the past leadership at the County level, singling out Bob Honecker's leadership and the involvement of the Monmouth Prosecutor's Office. He stated that during that period the MCHRC was thought of as a "go-to organization," especially when community crises occurred, leading Toby Shylit-Mack to ask how we might reclaim that mantle, perhaps through visible events and partnering with area institutions and businesses.

Angel Quiles suggested looking to younger people to help us grow, but if there aren't presently the numbers we need for certain projects, to use the ones you have, so that we all organize around an issue and would increase visibility and energy. Partnering with local colleges would also attract students.

VIII. New Business –

- A. Monmouth County Fair reminder. Phil will bring a sign-up sheet for the Fair and discussed logistics.
- B. Sherri West mentioned the Brookdale programs on Human Rights in April.

IX. Calendar

- A. Next Full Commission Meeting – June 7, 2010, 3:30 p.m.
- B. Next Executive Committee Meeting – May 3, 2010, 3:30 p.m.

X. Adjournment at 4:30pm.

Submitted by: Sherri West, Secretary