

**Monmouth County Human Relations Commission
Full Commission Meeting
December 13, 2010**

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carolyn Schwebel at 3:45

Members in attendance:

Kendall Baldwin	Ted Lee
Patrick Collum	Ricky Pierce, Sr
David D'Amico	Carolyn Schwebel
J.P. Delaney	John Schwebel
Kay Guadagno	Linda Zucaro

Minutes: Linda Zucaro moved the minutes of October 4, 2010 be accepted. Seconded by Dave D'Amico. Motion passed.

Chair's Report: Carolyn Schwebel reported receipt of a "Dear Colleague" letter from the U.S. Department of Education Office on Civil Rights. This letter is intended to clarify the relationship between bullying and discriminatory harassment, and to remind schools that by limiting their responses to a specific application of an anti-bullying or other disciplinary policy, they may fail to properly consider whether the student misconduct also results in discrimination in violation of students' federal civil rights. Carolyn will make this letter available to commission members.

Treasurer's Report: Carolyn Schwebel reported that the Treasurer was unable to attend today's meeting. A comprehensive report will be delivered in January.

Core Team Reports: Linda Zucaro reported that the Cyber-Bullying Conference held at the Agricultural Building October 22 was very successful and thanked all who made the venture possible. Linda also reported that topics are being considered for a spring conference and that work continues on the development of Human Relations Committees in Monmouth County High Schools. The next meeting of the Youth Awareness Core Team will take place January 11, 2011 room 118 Mann Hall, Brookdale Community College, Lincroft Campus, at 4:30.

Standing Committees and Support Teams

Membership: There was no report available at this time.

Communications: John Schwebel reported that he has submitted three items for inclusion on the Commission's County Webpage: Cyber bullying recommendations from the October conference attendees; commission schedule updates; Cyber bullying links. He further indicated that the county is questioning material before posting it. This prompted discussion concerning the establishment of the commission's own Website independent of the county Webmaster. John presented a possible domain name – monmouthcountyhrc.org. The Commission agreed that we should proceed. The Face Book page is being explored by Randy Thompson.

Incident Response and Reporting: Dave D'Amico explained the difficulty he is experiencing as a law enforcement person acting as chair of this committee. It appears that when he responds to the initial call and leaves his office number there is no call back. Dave feels that someone not connected with law enforcement should act as chairperson for this support team. Linda Zucaro agreed to serve in that role for now.

Resource Development: There is no report at this time.

Immigration Working Group: Linda reported that a panel will shortly be convened to consider Cecilia's proposal. There was a suggestion from the Executive Committee meeting that the commission send a letter to the County Prosecutor asking that he remind local law enforcement units that untrained/certified officers are not to ask immigration status of people they encounter. Jeff Delaney questioned the commission's involvement in this matter as it appears to him to be a legal rather than discriminatory issue. He feels that if there are offending individuals or departments they should be dealt with through the courts. Additionally proof of alleged wrongdoing should be presented prior to any action by the Commission. Discussion followed.

Unfinished Business

Reorganization Committee: Pat Collum reported that he will convene another meeting of this committee in the near future. Carolyn noted that from its inception the MCHRC has chosen its own members, after the first group was appointed by the freeholders.

Earl T. Teasley Humanitarian Award Committee: Linda Zucaro reported that the first annual award will be given to J. Frank Vespa-Papaleo Esq., an attorney very active in civil rights who has had a large influence throughout the state and in particular in Monmouth County. The presentation of the award will be made at our February 7, 2011 full commission meeting. We hope to have a large audience including Earl's Brookdale colleagues.

2011 MCHRC Meeting Schedule: Carolyn reminded the members that the 2011 MCHRC meeting schedule has been distributed twice by email and is now on the MCHRC Webpage.

New Business

Linda reported that the former on-base housing at Earl Naval Weapons Station will be demolished. It had been hoped these facilities would have been used for senior housing.

Dave D'Amico reported that the fund raiser for families of Police Officers killed in the line of duty held at Bogart's in Long Branch was a success. He further stated that Bogart's is hosting an appreciation night, Tuesday, December 14, for all who made the original event possible.

Calendar

The next Executive Committee Meeting is January 10, 2011 at 3:30 PM in the Agricultural Building.

The Full Commission meeting will be on February 7, 2011 in the Agricultural Building.

Submitted by Jeff Delaney