

MONMOUTH COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
Full Commission Meeting

Monday, August 1, 2011 3:30p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
AG Building Conference Room
4000 Kozloski Road, Freehold, NJ 07728

Attendance: Kendall Baldwin, Dave D'Amico, Jeff Delaney, Ted Lee, Rev. Ricky Pierce, Inderjit Sawhney, Charanjit Sawhney, John Schwebel, Carolyn Schwebel, Toby Shylit-Mack, Sherri West, Linda Zucaro.

- I. Call to Order at 3:35PM followed by the Salute to the Flag.
- II. The June 6, 2011, minutes were approved without any changes.
- III. Chair's Report – Jeff mentioned his desire to move to a project-based activity for the Commission to work on this next year, followed up with the suggestion to work on police-community relations and Jeff asked for suggestions from the membership. One idea suggested by Dave D'Amico was to focus on the next National Night Out in 2012 to generate outreach to the communities in certain communities such as Freehold Borough, Red Bank, Asbury Park, and Long Branch, and a spirited discussion ensued, with ideas about developing a project with several of the communities mentioned.
Another idea suggested by Linda Zucaro dealt with diversity. Based on the 2010 Census, Monmouth County towns are as racially segregated as in 2000, which also impacts on the issue of affordable housing and on the schools. A brief discussion about possible projects to address this information took place.
Jeff also made several announcements: Sherri West is taking a leave of absence, and Jeff asked for nominations to take her place on a temporary basis. Linda suggested Fatima Jaffari and Jeff will call her; At last month's meeting we decided to eliminate the Immigration Working Group; Jeff spoke with Leroy and Angel about assuming leadership of Membership and Police Core Teams, respectively, but both are in jobs will enable them to take on new responsibilities; See the list of events at the end of the minutes, including The National Night Out, the Ocean Township Italian Festival, and the Clearwater Festival. The Latino Festival will take place on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011, and a brief discussion took place as to how the MCHRC should participate.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Inderjit reported that in May 2011, we had a balance of \$2539.42, and the only recent expenditures was the \$200

donation to support the 2011 Housing Bus Tour, and a \$66.72 expense for gifts. As of July 31, 2011, the closing balance is \$2272.70.

V. Core Team Reports –

A. Youth Awareness – The next meeting will be on August 8, 2011, at 1:00PM at the Presbyterian Church in Shrewsbury, with the workshop to take place on September 30, 2011, “Is It Hate Speech or Just Trash Talk.” Planning on specific speakers and the organization of the program will be discussed at the next core team meeting.

B. Police/Community Relations – Jeff mentioned that Angel cannot chair the team, so Jeff will take the chair’s responsibilities in the interim. Linda will send the current membership list to Jeff.

VI. Standing Committees and Support Teams

A. Membership – Linda will take on these duties if someone takes on the duties of Incident Response and Reporting. Several suggestions for adding members were presented.

B. Communications – Carolyn mentioned the Executive Committee discussion of a Spanish-speaking Hotline resource. An email received via the MCHRC website was discussed, and Linda suggested sending all emails from the website hotline should be forwarded to the Chair. The Facebook page is now operational, and Randy Thompson and Kendall Baldwin have ideas about using the page to enhance membership. Charles Brown gave Jeff the link to the Events calendar: www.monmouthcountyparks.com/eventcalendar.aspx

C. Incident Response and Reporting – Linda explained the duties of the person heading this team, but said that there were no new calls within the last three months.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Earl Teasley Humanitarian Award for 2011. Linda agreed to coordinate this and to establish a deadline for nominations as Oct. 31, 2011, and asked the membership to think of appropriate nominees to send the information to Linda.

VIII. New Business –

A. Immigration Working Group – moved and unanimously approved to eliminate the group as it has not been functioning for some time.

B. Bylaw Changes – A brief discussion took place about the proposed changes to the Bylaws, sent by separate email to the membership after the Executive Committee discussion at the last meeting. These changes would include adding a voting representative from each of

the following--the Freeholders, Prosecutor's Office, and Human Services Department. Ted Lee raised a concern that permitting government representatives to do so might move the Commission away from its neutral and non-political status. Inderjit suggested perhaps limiting the number of representatives from the county government could be done. Carolyn agreed with Ted, and will check with Bob Williams, who wrote the first bylaws, as to the origin of the present voting members of the Executive Committee. Dave thought the Prosecutor's Office might refrain from voting to avoid partiality. The discussion will be continued at future meetings. Jeff will continue to make overtures to the County to clarify the relationship between the Commission and the County.

IX. Calendar – See events below.

X. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 5:00PM.

Submitted by Sherri West, Acting Secretary