

MONMOUTH COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, September 10, 2012 3:30-5:00PM
Agriculture Building Conference Room
4000 Kozlowski Road, Freehold, NJ 07728

Attendance: Talesha Crank, Jeff Delaney, Darryl Hughes, Charanjit Sahwney, Inderjit Sahwney Carolyn Schwebel, John Schwebel, Sherri West, Linda Zucaro, John Terrell, guest

- I. The Call to Order was followed by the Salute to the Flag at approximately 3:35PM.**
- II. The July 2012 minutes of the Full Commission were approved, following a motion by Linda Zucaro, which was seconded and approved without changes. The final minutes will now be posted on the MCHRC website. John Schwebel suggested that a draft of each month's minutes should be sent when completed, so that members will have current information on the workings of the Commission. The members present agreed, so this month's minutes will be sent out within the next week.**

Chair's Report – Jeff mentioned that the membership, in a recent email poll, gave unanimous consent to co-sponsor the workshop for business leaders and human resource professionals organized by the American Conference on Diversity on October 18th from 7:45am - 10:30am at HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital in Tinton Falls. The program will feature Ester Nevarez, Special Assistant to the Director and Community Relations Coordinator, NJ Division on Civil Rights who will discuss Harassment Prevention in the Employment & Academic Environment. Linda offered to attend and Sherri will email the flyer to all members encouraging them to attend.

The other matter polled concerned the next Full Commission meeting, to be held on Oct. 1st in Sea Bright at 7PM. Eight people replied in the affirmative, so another email will be sent urging members to attend, with Linda Zucaro offering to call all members that have not replied to date so as to insure a good turnout for this meeting, where Detective Dave D'Amico will speak on the status of bias crime and discrimination in Monmouth County.

- III. Treasurer's Report – Inderjit reported that there was an expenditure of \$100 for Housing and Community Development membership renewal. There were no expenses in August, so the balance to date is \$2100.00. John Schwebel will send the bill for the business cards (\$75.00) so that that expense can be processed. Additional funds will be necessary to support the refreshments for the upcoming Police and Community workshop. See July and August reports at the end of the minutes.**

IV. Standing Committees and Support Teams

- A. Membership – Linda discussed the removal of some members from our rolls, as per votes taken at the August meeting, and put forth the name of longtime and valued member, Jan Sweeney, who has found it difficult to continue to serve. Jan recommended James Terrell as her replacement, and Mr. Terrell, who was present at this meeting, was introduced to all. Linda and Carolyn planned to interview him after the meeting, with a formal vote on his participation taking place at the October meeting of the Full Commission, where other prospective members will also be present. Linda motioned to drop Janice Sweeney from the membership and it was approved. She also mentioned that she continues to look for new members. Mary Lee Gilmore, from the Monmouth County Fair Housing Association, and once a member, has submitted an application for membership, and Christopher Gramiccioni, Acting Monmouth County Prosecutor, has agreed to replace former Prosecutor Peter Warsaw.**
- B. Communications – An update on the flyer for the December workshop was discussed (see current flyer at the end of the minutes), and Carolyn reported that Earl Easley’s mother has sent photos of Earl which were circulated at the meeting and which John will post on the website.**
- C. Incident response and Reporting – A chair is still needed for this committee, as Julian Williams from Monmouth, has taken a new position out of the area, so any members that wish to volunteer should contact Jeff Delaney.**
- D. Resource Development – With Kay Guadagno resignation, a chair is needed for this committee. Again, members wishing to volunteer should contact Jeff Delaney.**

V. Core Team Reports

- A. Police/Community Relations – Jeff reported on a recent meeting held with Carolyn and John Schwebel, and Chief Sorrentino to discuss the December workshop, “Closing the Gap: A Law Enforcement Response to Disabilities.” He mentioned the importance of making sure that the central message of the workshop was understood—for law enforcement to gain both understanding and techniques to more effectively deal with people with disabilities. Panelists have been confirmed and the technical details, including the making of a workshop video were discussed. Catering for the workshop is also being worked on, and Linda reported on the status of the supplies available for handouts on that day.**

- VI. Unfinished Business – It is time to begin thinking about nominations for the Earl Teasley Humanitarian of the Year award. Send prospective names, along with a brief statement of support, to the committee, which presently consists of Sondra Cannon, Carolyn Schwebel, and Pat Collum. Linda is shepherding this through at this time, and urged all members to take advantage of the opportunity (and**

obligation) to nominate prospective award members. The person does not have to live in Monmouth County but may not be a member of the MCHRC.

VII. **New Business** – Talesha Crank asked about the Commission’s role in dealing with the issue of cultural diversity and its relationship to law enforcement. Several members mentioned past programs on cultural diversity, and one recommended that that issue be considered by the Full Commission as one option in 2013. Darryl Hughes mentioned Monmouth Medical Center’s efforts to make cultural diversity an important component of their practice and suggested that he could help should the Commission decide to pursue that issue for the next year. There also followed brief updates on the Sikh community’s efforts to deal with the recent shootings at the Sikh temple in Wisconsin, and mention was made of recent vandalism and anti-Semitism in Manalapan. Sherri West discussed the Chhange Center’s grant, The Big Read, which will deal with civil rights, capital punishment, and discrimination through a variety of public discussions in March and April, and there was support for the MCHRC to co-sponsor and, perhaps, to participate in the programming now being developed.

VIII. **Calendar** – Upcoming meetings are a Full Commission meeting on Monday, Oct. 1, 2012, at 7PM at the Sea Bright Library, with the next Executive meeting scheduled for November 5, 2012. Members should also put on their calendars the diversity workshop mentioned above, and taking place from 7:45-10:30am on Oct. 18th at HealthSouth Rehabilitation Center, Tinton Falls.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 5PM.

Respectfully submitted by Sherri West, Secretary