

Duluth Human Rights Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
April 11, 2012

Commissioners Present: Cynthia Strange, Robert Kaner, Heather Yun, Margie Nelson, Robert Cherry, Cruz Mendoza, Rebecca Domagala, John Phung, Michele Naar-Obed, Scott Yeazole, Sheryl Boman

Commissioners Excused: Scot Bol, Em Westerlund

Commissioners Not Excused: Allegra Henderson

Others Present: Bob Grytdahl , Human Rights Officer

Meeting location change: The City is doing renovation on Room 303, so we will have to meet at a different location next month. They are doing acoustic improvement. Bob Grtydahl will check on using the Green Room at the Library, and Cruz Mendoza will check into the Central Hillside Community Center as a backup.

Election of Officers: Election for officers should have been done in March. Due to new members not coming on commission until this month we will have elections in May. *John Phung made a motion to form a nominating committee for officers. Michele Naar-Obed seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

Cynthia Strange, Heather Yun, and Sheryl Boman Schneider will be on Nominating Committee. Scott Yeazole will send out a notice to Commissioners not here.

*John Phung made a motion to amend by laws, if needed, to correspond with the time line for Mayor's appointment of commissioners. Cruz Mendoza seconded. Motion passed by all. John Phung will write proposed amendment.*

Possible Commission Retreat – Commissioners discussed retreat. A survey will be sent out to figure out date. Chris Cherry will send it out.

Unfair Campaign – The commission talked about the events that took place in April for the Unfair Campaign and the meeting that took place at Peace Church regarding the day the white supremacy group came to protest. Commissioners talked about what our role is in dealing with any backlash for people of color.

Potential Sister City – Michele Naar-Obed gave an update on the potential sister city in Rania, Iraq, and some of the members having difficulties in getting visas to visit Duluth.

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Community Events

1. Unitarian Church is having a dinner and blue grass music fund-raiser at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Free will donation.
2. There will be a domestic violence training at DAIP with a trainer from out East with expertise in working with Muslim families. Dates are April 16-17 from 8:00am to 5:00pm.
3. A candidates forum for the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District will be held April 19<sup>th</sup>.
4. On April 20<sup>th</sup>, there will be a report back from the United Way, on the Education Achievement Gap. It will be held at Old Central High School.
5. On April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m., Echoes of Peace Choir will hold a concert at Sacred Heart Music Center for the Grant, Nettleton Community Project.
6. A Memorial Day Parade will be held at noon in West Duluth.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sheryl Boman  
Secretary

SB:jm