

Sullivan County Human Rights Commission
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
Thursday, June 13, 2019

Present: Bill, Michael, Marty, Dana, Charles, Shanita, Dayna, Kathie, Judy, Sam (via phone)

Meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

- I. Approval of May's minutes - all approved
- II. Director's Report
 - A. Five cases to date. Four were not within the scope of HRC. One is pending further review. Two pre-complaints were documented and on file to show that they spoke to someone. One did not wish to move forward. Four phone calls yesterday to follow up.
 - B. Mid-year Report: Very thorough document showing what has been completed (3.5%), what is "pending" (38%), and what still needs work (50%).
 - C. Census Interview: Reporter from TRR called to ask for an interview to discuss the census question. Dana doesn't feel that she is knowledgeable enough to do this interview. We are waiting for clarification from feds, so we will table this till next meeting.
 - D. Attended Sullivan Renaissance Conference (5/17/19). Dana learned a lot about engagement of youth.
 - E. Met with Rabbi Larry regarding measles and anti-Semitism (5/23).
 - F. Met with Liberty Superintendent regarding student volunteers (5/30). He asked if we could collaborate. He sent contact information of principals/administrators to Dana. Wants us to come and talk to the students, develop programs. Shanita: we need to plan events that are regular and consistent that people can count on. Marty will set up a meeting with Gus after July 10.
 - G. Submitted a request to attend NYC Human Rights Conference on June 24-25. It has been approved.
 - H. Proposal of Engagement created – brainstorming – to fulfill strategic goals.

III. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee

1. Agenda Enhancement – Marty would like to set time limits for each section of the agenda. As for public comment, we will set a 3 minute/pp limit, but not limit on how many people can speak.
2. Policies, Rules and Procedures – Charles said there should be a date on updated P & Ps. Bill wanted it in the record that other members of the HRC should have been invited to be part of the subcommittee that reviewed P & Ps. (It was noted that all members of the Commission are always invited to the Executive Committee meetings.)
3. The July Executive Committee meeting is changed to 7/3 at 5:00 p.m. because of the 4th of July holiday.

B. Outreach Committee

1. Fallsburg Family Engagement Day (5/18) – low key day, but excellent implicit bias workshop. Maybe we can arrange another presentation with the presenter. Outreach will take up at next meeting.
2. Unity in the Community (5/30) – This event was SC Probation & Juvenile Probation. The officers did a great job. Covered by TRR. Mike will reach out to Aleta in Fallsburg.
3. MBK BBQ: Mike asked if HRC can have a table and have some fun activities. Mike will email everyone (6/29)
4. NAACP Juneteenth Celebration and Health Fair (6/19) – Will show "Death by Delivery". HRC will focus on health issues that relate to Human Rights. From 4 – 8 p.m.
5. Hair Discrimination Event (TBA) - Shanita is working on finding a date and place, lining up speakers to give informal advice, discussion, etc. Free samples from beauty supply shops? Food?
6. Hurleyville Arts Center Stonewall Celebration – We plan to collaborate with them in the Fall. Ideas are documentary about prison, Mike Sheridan Immigrant Visions (perhaps with Facetime with directors)
7. Summer Fairs: 7/27 50th Anniversary of Stonewall at HAC; 7/4 in Liberty; 8/6 in Fallsburg and Callicoon; 8/11 Bagel Fest. Shanita will work on updating the questionnaire.

IV. Digital Engagement

- A. Facebook presence – 220+ likes, 237 followers, and posts have reached 600+ people. 200+ interactions with posts. We are sharing posts from other entities, but we need to post more of our own. Suggestion: ask people to share their story and we'll post it anonymously. Also, use FB to introduce all the commissioners. Anyone who wants – send a photo and short bio to Dana and she'll post. Mike suggested doing a newsletter digitally.

- V. Public Comment – David Jett and Teresa Jett introduced themselves. David has been a mentor with MBK. Michael Schwartz, who came in to speak to Dana about volunteering, also attended the meeting and introduced himself.

- VI. Adjournment at 6:45 p.m.