

Sullivan County Human Rights Commission
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
Thursday, May 9, 2019

Meeting called to order at 5:50 p.m.

Present: Dana, Dayna, Judy, Sam, Charles, Bill, Mike, Marty, Shanita, Kathie

- I. Approval of April minutes – all in favor

- II. Director's Report
 - A. Community Meetings
 1. Sullivan 180

 2. CCC Census – S.C. is 2nd to last in NYS health outcomes, and minority groups are the main non-participants (not sure if I got this right, or am phrasing it correctly). If we underreport in the county, we lose funding to address our outcomes.

 - B. Complaints – There are two that are non-HRC related. Dana needs to meet with the Issues Committee as soon as possible.

 - C. Dana asked for commissioners to sign up for tabling for Fallsburg Family Engagement Day.

- III. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee
 1. Marty, Dana and Dayna will review Policies and Procedures. They will begin the reviewing process and then report back to the full commission for discussion. Bill objected to this action. Marty explained that there is a process and this is only the first step.

 2. Follow up meeting with the Legislature on 5/14 at 10:30 to continue the dialogue we began with them on 3/21. Dayna expressed interest in joining the meeting with the legislators who are committed to

attend as she is now part of the Executive Committee. Marty will present this first to the group and then invite Dayna. A goal of this meeting is to establish regular (quarterly?) meetings to continue talking,

B. Outreach Committee

1. Green Light Forum was held on April 24. Attended by law enforcement, school admins and others. It was very informative. Discussion about it followed later in the meeting.
2. *Death by Delivery*, a documentary about the high rate of maternal death in this country (especially for Black and Latina women), co-sponsored by NAACP, Planned Parenthood and HRC, is scheduled for Thursday, May 16, HAC at 6:30 p.m. A speaker from NYC will facilitate a discussion afterward.
3. We will table at Fallsburg Family Engagement Day on May 18, and there will be a session from 2-4 on implicit bias.
4. Bill announced there will be no law enforcement meeting next month.
5. We need to start planning for summer street festivals.
6. The Census 2020 Committee is meeting the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 9 a.m. in the Legislative Hearing Room. Anyone can attend. An important tool for outreach. Also, they are hiring census takers, paying \$18/hour.
7. Judy wants to talk to HAC about showing other films there on a regular basis. (Check with Richard Sheridan's New Immigrant and Refugee Visions?) Marty recommended "The Sixth Section" for a screening. The HAC is doing something for Stonewall Anniversary. (Maybe speak to them about including something about gender equality.)

(a) The question of transportation came up. HAC is a bit out of the way (compared to Monticello). Marty said that by July there should be hourly transportation between Liberty, Fallsburg and Monticello, which could go through Hurleyville and stop at HAC.

8. Shanita will put an event together re: hair styles and discrimination. She has spoken to Sandra Johnson Fields to be a speaker. Maybe ask Noah (MBK) to perform his spoken word about do-rags?
9. Mike reported that Cop Café last Thursday with State Police went very well. He is trying to get Probation to come to this month's.
10. Bill asked Dana to set up a meeting with the DA to extend bullying/harassment laws to adults. (Bill, Marty, Luis, Nadia, Aileen, Jen, Jim Farrell, Charles). Ronnie (speaking as a member of the community) stated that she had met with J.F. this morning about this issue.

IV. Ongoing

- A. Digital Engagement – our FB page has reached 571 people (including 172 likes and 180 followers)
- B. Green Light discussion: Dayna brought up a resolution of support for the Green Light Initiative. Bill objected that we hadn't discussed as a commission that we would support this. Charles has reservations about supporting this law. Sam expressed that having a license is not a right, but a privilege. A vote on this issue was tabled and will be on the agenda next month.

V. Public Comment

Ronnie Courtney spoke, making a request that Judy step down as co-chair of the HRC within 3 months. She made a long statement detailing her grievances with Lorraine Lopez-Janove, her husband, her son, and Judy. After 20 or more minutes, Marty offered to go to the police with her to lodge a complaint of vandalism. She accepted, but then continued for another 5 minutes, after which I had to leave the meeting.

IV. Adjournment – meeting ended at 7:15