

MONMOUTH COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Meeting

Monday, September 13, 2010/3:30p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

AG Building Conference Room

4000 Kozloski Road, Freehold, NJ 07728

Attendance: Linda Zucaro, Kay Guadagno, Phil Smith, Toby Shylit- Mack, Jeff Delaney, Carolyn Schwebel, John Schwebel, Sherri West, Inderjit Sawheny, Dave D'Amico, Charles Brown, Pat Collum, Cecilia Reynolds, Sondra Cannon. Visitors: Louise Usechak and Jennie Axelrod, League of Women Voters; Victoria Ramenez, Nosotros; and Cynthia Scott, Undersheriff, Monmouth County Sheriff's Office.

- I. Call to Order – Salute to the Flag
- II. Approval of July 2010 minutes – The minutes were corrected and approved, motion by Phil Jones, seconded by Kay Guadagno.
- III. Chair's Report: Carolyn dispensed with the report as a result of the full schedule.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Phil reported that he would be in touch with Louise, and Charles Brown indicated a current balance of \$1577.05. Mr. Brown also noted that as of Oct. 1, 2010, the County Financial Advisor will ask for an accounting of all funds not already allocated. Any unexpended funds are not carried over to the next fiscal year.
- V. Core Team Reports
 - A. Youth Awareness – Linda spoke on the committee's plans to create school Human Relations Commissions, receiving a good response from meetings at Howell and Red Bank, and five more meetings are scheduled. Plans for the second cyberbullying workshop to be held on Oct. 22 are underway with the next meeting taking place on Sept. 16, 2010, at 5PM at the Shrewsbury Presbyterian Church.
 - B. Police and Community Relations – no report.
 - C. Economic Issues – no report.
- VI. Standing Committees & Support Teams
 - A. Membership: candidates – Janice was not present, and no report was made.
 - B. Communications-
 1. Web page problem re Mon. Co.- John Schwebel described his inability to change the MCHRC Web site since July; he has not received an update as to the current status. A brief discussion was held on the prospect of developing and maintaining a separate webpage, but no decision was reached, awaiting information from the County Administrator. Charles Brown provided an update later in the meeting that, due to changes made for security reasons, the platform was changed. Also he added that the Public Information Officer will require review of all materials before placing them on the Web site. John and the MCHRC are not longer able to place materials directly on our site. Carolyn will contact the county administrator to clarify

the situation. Linda moved to have John investigate and to report back in October as to how to enable us to establish a presence on the web in the most effective way and this motion was approved.

2. Social media- Randy Thompson's suggestion that we embrace social media, perhaps maintaining a presence on Facebook and Twitter was briefly discussed and will be further examined at the October meeting.
 3. Sending minutes to Freeholders- Sherri West noted receipt of a memorandum from the Freeholders requesting a copy of the minutes be sent to Deputy Clerk Marion Masnick. Sherri will add her name and email to our current email list.
- C. Incident Response and Reporting - no report
D. Resource Development - Kay mentioned that we have available materials for future events.
E. Immigration Working Group - no new report

VII. Unfinished Business

- A. Committee to Honor Earl - Linda recounted our plan to honor Earl. See the attached proposal, which was unanimously approved.
- B. Bylaws - We will be voting on the bylaws in October.
- C. Reorganization Study Committee - Sondra reported meeting during the summer with her committee and plans to make a presentation at the October or November meeting.
- D. County-wide conference on immigration issues- Cecilia introduced herself as the Editor of Nosostros newspaper and has recently opened a community center in Asbury Park. She a proposed agenda for an upcoming workshop for the MCHRC to consider called "Project ID & 287(g)." She explained some of the problems associated with the implementation of 287g and other issues related to undocumented immigrants. She is asking that some of the recipients come to a future meeting to explain the implications of 287g in Monmouth County. The Executive Committee agreed to hear a presentation at the Oct. 4th meeting. She also encouraged members to read pp. 24-25 of the September issue of Nosostros, now available online:
Link: www.periodiconosotros.com.
- E. Latino Festival October - more information will be provided soon.

VIII. New Business

- A. Cynthia Scott, Sheriff's Office re 287(g) spoke on this program which has been in place since March 2010. To date there are five officers which have been trained to work at the Monmouth County jail, coordinating their activities with federal officials from ICE in Newark. State mandates are also being followed, and data on the program and its administration within Monmouth County is presently being collected. Undersheriff Scott answered members' questions after her presentation. Det.D'Amico clarified that only the sheriff's officers, not local police officers, are allowed to follow 287(g) procedures.
- B. Immigration and human trafficking Programs- Carolyn mentioned that Dale Daniels asked her to announce of two programs sponsored by the Holocaust, Genocide, Human Rights and Education Center, "Immigration: Fact and Fiction," November 8, 2010, and "Bought, Sold,

and Smuggled: Human Trafficking in New Jersey,” on Dec. 6, 2010. The Executive Committee agreed to co-sponsor and to help publicize these events.

- C. Monmouth County Fair 2011- Linda has written to the Prosecutor’s Office to ask to develop a partnership with them, so as to have our own table at the 2011 Fair and is awaiting a response.
- D. Latino American Assoc. Banquet 10/29/10 at Branches, Long Branch – Carmen Flores and others will be honored. The Executive Committee is asking for members to participate and will repeat their request at the October meeting.
- E. Dave D’Amico asked to publicize the Fugitive Safe Surrender program, to be held on Nov. 3-6, 2010, from 9- 4PM, at the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, 711 Somerset Street, Somerset, NJ. The Monmouth County Prosecutor’s Office is helping to find clergy to meet to participate in this program. Anyone interested should contact 732-828- 2009.

IX. Calendar

- A. Next Full Commission Meeting: October 4, 2010
- B. Next Executive Committee Meeting – November 1, 2010, 3:30 p.m.

X. Adjournment

Submitted by Sherri West, Secretary

HONORING EARL TEASLEY

The Monmouth County Human Relations Commission has established a recognition of the Humanitarian of the Year in Monmouth County to honor the life and service of Earl Teasley.

Earl served as President of the MCHRC for two plus years before he died in April 2010. His work both as spokesman for the Commission and in the greater community held a light to the need for social justice and served as a call to service for many people.

In recognizing Earl's contributions, the Commission will select the recipient based on the following guidelines:

... the recipient would be a resident of, or have contributed substantially to, Monmouth County,

... the recipient would not be a member of the Commission

... the award would be presented in December in consideration of the calendar year

... the award would take the form of a candle holder similar to the examples attached

... the committee of the Commission to administer the award for 2010 would be
Dave D'Amico, Kay Guadagno and

PROJECT ID & 287(G) EVENT PROPOSAL

PREPARED FOR: Monmouth County Human Relations Commission
PREPARED BY: Cecilia Reynolds

DESCRIPTION:

Monmouth County is in need of better forms of Identification for the most vulnerable, its immigrants. In response, we will host a round-table forum on the 287(g) law and the impact it is causing on this community. The issues for discussion are the current climate of 287(g) enforcement and the domino effect it is causing –a drain in economic system subdivision of welfare.

OVERVIEW:

The current law in Monmouth County, 287(g) allows the federal government to deputize our local officials to enforce deferral immigration law. In our agency, Nosotros/Center for Immigrant Services, we offer consultation to numerous cases in which parents of not one, but three to five American children, face deportation for minor local offences which have then been taken in the hands of ICE.

According to a briefing issued by the Migration Policy Institute, 58% of detainees held on January 25, 2009 did not have criminal convictions. Furthermore, a report entitled, “The Impact of Immigration Enforcement on Child Welfare”, approximately 5.5 million children in the United States with at least one undocumented parent are likely to enter the child welfare system when a parent is detained or deported.

These statistics demonstrate that the cases our agency, (Nosotros/CIS) handles are issues faced at-large.

TARGET ATTENDEES:

Diverse spectrum of community members from Political, Educational, Medical, and Faith sectors that have direct impact with the 287(g) law and with those who can help improve the current situation.

THE OBJECTIVE:

By targeting the 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act and explaining its implication on the Child Welfare System, we hope to instill a greater common understanding on a contemporary and urgent issue to resolve. Through local ordinance, we must create a prevention initiative that will distinguish law-abiding undocumented immigrants from criminals and that will decrease the projected drain in our welfare system in the near future.

THE GOALS:

- To address the implementation of the 287(g) law and the need to understand the interpretation
- Clarify ambiguous areas of the law
- Create open communication between review board and law

THE SOLUTION:

The result of this discussion is to introduce the attendees to a measure of amelioration that can be applied now. With the support of the attendees, we hope to commence the discussed prevention initiative as well as a Nosotros/CIS-issued identification program, endorsed by the county.

BENEFITS:

- Distinguish law-abiding immigrants from criminals with a county-wide identification program, thus creating secure communities.
- Prevent the unnecessary drain in economic system, saving tax-payers from unwarranted tax hikes.