

MONMOUTH COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Full Commission Meeting

Monday, October 4, 2010/3:30p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

AG Building Conference Room

4000 Kozloski Road, Freehold, NJ 07728

Attendance:

Members: John Schwebel, Carolyn Schwebel, Linda Zuccaro, Ruth Lax, Phil Smith, Sondra Cannon, Kay Guadagno, Charles W. Brown, Sherri West, Kendall Baldwin, Keith Rella, Julius Ramsey, Janice Sweeney, Wendy Edelson, Rosa Lee, Fatima Jaffari

Visitors: Gloria Alexandra Maldonado, Congressman Pallone, Jr.'s office, Gloria Vasquez, Alicia Huerta, Victoria Ramirez, Nosotros.

- I. Call to Order – Salute to the Flag
- II. Approval of August 2, 2010 minutes. The minutes were approved.
- III. Chair's Report: Carolyn thanked all for coming and mentioned the tragedy at Rutgers, commenting on the disturbing fact that this incident has been noted around the world. She quoted from Rutgers instructor Robert O'Brien in the Star-Ledger, "Intolerance is growing at the same time cyberspace has given every one of us an almost magical ability to invade others people's lives."
- IV. Treasurer's Report – No report was made at this meeting.
- V. Core Team Reports
 - A. Youth Awareness – Linda announced the next meeting on Oct. 7, 5PM at the Presbyterian Church in Shrewsbury where the team will discuss the upcoming workshop, "Cyberbullying Part II." The format and plan for the workshop is in place, with Sgt Robert Angelini the keynote speaker, followed by breakout groups led by facilitators to discuss various strategies to address these issues.
 - B. Police and Community Relations – No report.
 - C. Economic Issues – No report.
- VI. Standing Committees & Support Teams
 - A. Membership: No report.
 - B. Communications-
 1. Web page problem re Mon. Co.-John Schwebel reported that since July we haven't been able to access our webpage because of a new county policy. We could pursue an independent site for a cost of approximately \$150 a year, and John has agreed to be the webmaster. Charles Brown circulated a handout with the County policy and noted Item #7, indicating that any content placed on the site must be approved by Public Information prior to posting. Linda motioned to proceed with the establishment of an independent website, seconded by Sherri. In the discussion, Keith Rella, aide to Freeholder Mallet, mentioned the uniqueness of this group because there is no direct appointed staff liaison, which accounts for some of the confusion

about the website policy. Freeholder Mallet wants to set up a meeting between the Administration and the MCHRC Executive Committee to discuss questions relating to the MCHRC website. After some discussion, a motion was approved to establish a separate website, pending a meeting with the County. Carolyn wondered if the County would still want to approve information even if we hosted our own website. Keith will contact Carolyn to set up a meeting to discuss these issues further.

2. Social media-Randy Thompson was not present but Carolyn mentioned looking into a Facebook and other social media organizations.
- C. Incident Response and Reporting - No report.
- D. Resource Development - Kay mentioned preparations for the Oct. 22 workshop and all materials will be ready.
- E. Immigration Working Group - No report.

VII. Unfinished Business

- A. Bylaws -Vote - Phil Smith moved to accept the bylaws, seconded by Sondra Cannon. The vote requires approval by two-thirds of the members present and received the required number of votes, with the Bylaws approved.
- B. Reorganization Study Committee - Discussion will take place at the November meeting.
- C. 287(g) Immigration issues-Cecilia and guests - While Cecilia was not present, Victoria Ramirez, Assistant to Cecilia Reynolds at Nostros, introduced two community members that have been affected by 287(g) policy. The visitors discussed several ways in which the community is being affected by the absence of federal policy, and issues involving local law enforcement, followed by questions from the members. It was recommended that the Immigration Working Group take on this issue and Sherri will send out a memo asking for additional members. Linda suggested that at our November Executive meeting Dave D'Amico discuss the prospect that the MCHRC could request that the Prosecutor's Office reissue the Attorney General's Directive so that all local law enforcement agencies in Monmouth County know how to proceed. The Latino Banquet, to be held on Oct. 29th at Branches, was also mentioned, with a request for members wishing to attend to contact Carolyn.
- D. Citizen Service meeting- John & Carolyn attended the Sept. 15th meeting organized by Keith Rella and distributed brochures from the Commission. Carolyn circulated fliers she picked up at the meeting to the membership and commented on the vital need for volunteers in the community were made. Keith mentioned the wonderful turnout from all throughout the community. He said the Freeholders appreciated the positive comments by John and Carolyn about the accessibility afforded by the venue, the Monmouth County Fire Academy.

VIII. New Business

- A. Immigration and human trafficking programs- Announcements on future events co-sponsored by the MCHRC were mentioned. November 8th is the meeting on immigration and Monday, December 6th on human trafficking in New Jersey.
- B. Housing Market Reform Act proposal- Linda has long been interested in affordable housing and that New Jersey is on the brink of changing the laws. The Monmouth A-Team worked this summer to develop an alternative proposal, the Housing Market Reform Act, which has the goal of creating more uniform standards that maintain the fair share threshold. Linda asked for members to take an interest in advocating for this bill with their respective groups, with a goal to having the legislature adopt this legislation.
- C. Schedule of 2011 Meetings - John requested that members review the schedule for any possible conflicts. A brief discussion certain dates took place. The schedule will be reissued in November.
- D. Janice Sweeney reminded us that October 12th is the last day to register to vote in the 2010 General Election. In the News Transcript of Sept. 18th, she mentioned that there is now Kershaw Commons, Freehold, behind Applewood Estates, independent living. Finally, she mentioned that Tom Daniels, former member, was honored with a plaque for his past service placed on the Info Age Wall of Honor.
- E. Fatima Jaffari reported an incident in Howell regarding bias remarks made to the son of a friend. Fatima mentioned the need to publicize the fact that we host a Hotline. Sondra suggested a feature article on the services provided by the commission.

VIII. Calendar

- A. Next Full Commission Meeting: December 13, 2010 (Second Monday)
- B. Next Executive Committee Meeting - November 1, 2010, 3:30 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment