

## **MONMOUTH COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**

**Full Commission Meeting**

**Monday, June 1, 2015 3:30 – 5:00PM**

**Agriculture Building**

**4000 Kozloski Road, Freehold, NJ 07728**

**Attendance:** Nina Anderson, Sondra Cannon, John Curley, Freeholder and Liaison, Jeff Delaney, Darryl Hughes, Rosa Lee, Rev. Ricky Pierce, Jeff Schwartz, Carolyn Schwebel, John Schwebel, Sherri West, Linda Zucaro. **Guests:** Violeta Peters, Teasley Award winner, Melissa Teasley, Earl's sister, Lillian Burry, Freeholder, Serena DiMaso, Freeholder, Annemarie Lisa, Assistant to Violeta Peters.

**Business Meeting: 3:30-4:15PM**

- I. Call to Order – Salute to the Flag at 3:35PM.**
- II. Approval of April 2015 Meeting Minutes with minor corrections.**
- III. Treasurer's Report – The 2015 budget allocation will be \$1950.00. A reimbursement of \$87.16 was paid, so the balance as of 6/1/15 is \$1862.84. Outstanding expenditures will be processed for visor card printing (\$124.35) and award program printing (\$57.20). Linda mentioned that there will be expenses from today's refreshments and Jeff Delaney moved that the committee should purchase additional Teasley awards, a motion which was approved.**
- IV. Standing Committees and Support Teams**
  - a. Membership - Linda gave a brief report that we continue to add people to the list for the October workshop.**
  - b. Communications – Carolyn mentioned the publicity sent on the Teasley Award, and that John continues to update the website.**
  - c. Incident Response and reporting – no report**
  - d. Resource Development - Darryl reported on a recent discussion with Rosa Lee to see how best to organize events of interest to the MCHRC, with more discussion at the next meeting.**
- V. Unfinished Business: Planning for the October Diversity Program – a draft of the October meeting was distributed and a brief discussion held about the format and topics included. See attached. Linda felt this**

draft was a good beginning, and looked forward to input from the other members of the committee. Discussion concerning the topics, the format, and other concerns about the program will be held at the July Executive meeting. Linda will contact the group working on participants for the October meeting over the summer to expand and to finalize the invitees.

VI. **New Business: Election of New Officers** – Darryl has not been able to contact one of the potential officers, so he proposed postponing the election to the August Full meeting. The slate will be presented in July and the election will take place in August. The slate of officers will be emailed to the membership. Darryl moved to table the vote until August, it was seconded and approved.

VII. **Adjournment** – at 4:00PM.

**Program: 4:15-5:00PM**

**Presentation of the 2015 Earl Teasley Humanitarian Award to Violeta Peters, Chief Executive Officer of Acute Care Health System at CentraState.**

Darryl Hughes officiated, with Linda Zucaro giving a brief overview of the Teasley Award. She reminded members that a lantern was chosen as a visible symbol of the award in recognition of the fact that “Earl held a light to social justice,” with his own work that echoed Gandhi’s theme, “Be the change you want to see.” Melissa, Earl’s sister, thanked those in attendance, referring to her brother as “the little guy with the big head—of knowledge and wisdom,” and complimented the Commission on the choice of Violeta Peters, who has worked tirelessly to help the community in Monmouth County through her efforts in the health field as well as in education. Freeholders Lillian Burry, John Curley, and Serena DiMaso were also part of the presentation, making brief remarks, and friends Joe Ferraina and Rosa Lee also made comments. The awards ceremony was followed with refreshments.

**Submitted by: Sherri West, Secretary**

Unconscious Bias Community Workshop  
6:00p.m. - 8:00p.m. Monday, October 5, 2015  
Brookdale Learning Center, Neptune, NJ Proposed Overview and Agenda

Panelists:

- Wayne Boatwright, Vice President of Cultural Diversity, Meridian Health
- Faculty Member, Monmouth University
- Representative from County police departments

Target Audience:

- county residents?
- Key community and institutional stakeholders

Areas of concern:

- Perception vs. reality in community relations
- The influence of unconscious bias in community policy and decision-making
- Mainstream media's role in influencing community relations and potential bias
- Social media's impact and influence in perpetuating bias

Objectives:

1. To raise awareness amongst county residents and stakeholders about the concept and effect of unconscious bias in each of us, and its influence in society.
2. To discuss positive proven approaches to mitigate the influence of unconscious bias in community institutions (healthcare, higher education, police and security, housing).
3. To foster a candid and constructive dialogue on how Monmouth County institutions can work collaboratively to minimize the effects of unconscious bias in policy and practice to ensure continued equitable treatment for all Monmouth County residents and visitors.