

HUMBOLDT COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (HRC) MINUTES  
Meeting of 10 August 2004  
Conference Room A  
Humboldt County Courthouse, Eureka, California

In the absence of Eastman, Lochtie called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**A. Attendance and Introduction of Guests**

Present: Lochtie, Aziz, J. Shaffer, Stein, Jewell, and Miller.

Excused absence: Eastman, Tharp, deLeon, Botzler, Lyons, and B. Shaeffer.

Guests: 3

(Note: Because only six members were present, no action was taken on any item.)

**B. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were read and a correction noted. Minutes shall be presented at the next meeting for approval.

**C. Public Comment**

1. Two guests were from the Fallen Gong. One of them narrated the persecution of their group in China.
2. The other guest came to observe the meeting.

**D. Correspondence, Contact Reports, and Telephone Calls**

1. Stein received seven calls.
  - a. A man called from Brookings. He was charged with DUI and his car impounded. Referred to the Legal Aid.
  - b. Case Manager of an unidentified woman called that her client was discriminated and not allowed to breast feed the baby in the Jail waiting room. Suggested her to have the woman call the HRC. No follow up call was received.
  - c. A woman called to complain that the Sheriff because of an unclear Bench Warrant illegally arrested her. Referred her to the Legal Aid. Also suggested to her to contact the Public Defender's Office.
  - d. A man called to know who was responsible for roach extermination in his rented apartment. On call back his telephone was found blocked.
  - e. A woman called from Redway. She was concerned regarding the Probate status of her mother's estate. A letter including Legal Aid info was sent to her.
  - f. A man called from Ferndale to know the status of his previous complaint about 'illegal search'. Referred him to Eastman.
  - g. A woman called regarding a League of Women Voters 'project'. On follow up I got no response.
2. Jewell received six calls.
  - a. A Fortuna man called claiming that a helicopter was spying on him and the police chief would not help him. Listened to him
  - b. A Eureka woman called to know if she needed legal help because she was charged with shoplifting. Referred her to Legal Services.
  - c. A Eureka man reported that people were breaking into his apartment and that it was a hate crime. He agreed to report it to the Eureka police.
  - d. A Mackinleyville man called claiming that his neighbors had trespassed. They were verbally abusive, and assaulted him and his 17 year-old-daughter. The Sheriff had come but was not sympathetic.

He did not want to file a complaint. He said that he would call back if he changed his mind.

- e. A Blue Lake woman called asking if there was a tenants' union in area. Gave her information from a recent North Coast Journal article.
- f. A man called twice seeking to talk with Eastman. Referred him to Eastman.

#### **E. Committees, Liaisons, and Case Reports**

1. Finance (Lochtie). The current bank balance is \$713.49; there has been no change in the past month.
2. Law Enforcement Matters: No new information.  
Citizen's Complaint Form: Because of the absence of Eastman the matter was postponed to next meeting.
3. Independent Observers' Program: Miller informed that the response from the Pacific Lumber has not been encouraging.
4. Outreach and Education Matters: Nothing new to report
5. Homeless matters: Because of Botzler's absence the matter was postponed to the September meeting.
6. Citizens' Review Board: Because of Tharp's absence the matter was postponed to the September meeting.

#### **F. Unfinished Business**

1. Airing new public service announcements: Eastman is in contact with Channel 3.
2. Annual report to supervisors: It is in progress.
3. Same-sex marriages: Material on the subject was handed out.
4. Surveillance cameras: Because of deLeon's absence the matter was postponed to the September meeting.
5. Law enforcement liaison mentoring: Miller volunteered to mentor anyone interested.
6. Job description for a new intern: Eastman has invited suggestions.
7. Periodic column in the Times-Standard: No new information.
8. Other updates: Stein informed that the St. Joseph's Hospital has made a grant of \$300/-

#### **G. New Business**

Jewell informed that an item 'The Patriot Act' has been placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

#### **H. Adjourn**

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14 September 2004, 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room A of the County Courthouse, Eureka.

Respectfully submitted,

Abdul Aziz, Secretary (pro tem)

AGENDA  
HUMBOLDT COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
Meeting of 14 September 2004  
6 p.m., Conference Room A  
Humboldt County Courthouse, Eureka, California

- A. Attendance & Introductions.**
- B. Approval of Minutes of previous meetings**
- C. Public Comment (Limited to 5 minutes per speaker)**
  - 1. Items on the Commission agenda
  - 2. Items not on the Commission agenda (The Commission may not take action upon items not on the agenda.)
- D. Telephone Calls, Correspondence and Contact Reports**
- E. Committee, Liaison and Case Reports (If applicable):**
  - 1. Finance – Eastman
  - 2. Law enforcement matters – Eastman
    - Contacting LECAH on citizen complain forms (Eastman)
  - 3. Independent Observer Program - Miller
  - 4. Outreach and Education matters – J. Shaffer/B. Shaeffer
    - a. Channel 12 opportunities & HSU cooperative work
    - b. Cooperative programs with HSU (Botzler)
  - 5. Homeless matters (Botzler)
    - Production and distribution of new cards (Botzler/ Stein)
  - 6. Citizens Review Board (Tharp)
- F. Unfinished Business**
  - 1. Airing new public service announcements (Eastman)
  - 2. Annual report to Supervisors (Eastman)
  - 3. Same-sex marriage in Humboldt County
  - 4. Surveillance cameras in Humboldt County (deLeon)
  - 5. Law enforcement liaison mentoring program for new Commissioners (Eastman/Miller)
  - 6. Job description of a new intern (Eastman)
  - 7. Periodic column in Times-Standard or other local media (Tharp)
  - 8. Other Updates
- G. New Business**
  - 1. Entry to Court House
  - 2. Invitation to Jack Smith of Northern California Legal Services to apprise the HRC of the services his organization provides.
  - 3. Printing of Homeless Resource cards at the St. Joseph's Hospital.
- H. Adjourn**

Because the Human Rights Commission lacks a budget for photocopying and postage, we would appreciate it that, whenever possible, persons submitting written materials would provide 15 copies and circulate them at our meetings.