

Humboldt County Human Rights Commission  
Meeting of March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
6 p.m., Conference Room A  
Humboldt County Courthouse, Eureka, California

The meeting was called to order by Chair Botzler at 6:00 p.m.

**Attendance and Introduction of Guests**

Present: Munsee, Tharp, Filar, Botzler, Lochtie, Miller, Shaffer, Lyons, Ward

Excused absence: Tillinghast

Guest: five guests were present

**Minutes** – Motion Filar, Second Miller to approve minutes as presented. Motion passed.

**Public Comment** – Linda Thompson from the Northcoast Circle of Change presented information about Challenge Day events that are held in conjunction with local middle and high schools. Linda shared that the Circle of Change is a local non-profit that is working to support the change inspired by Challenge Day and they are seeking additional community member involvement to support their goals. They are working to raise funds and to develop a “Be the change” movement in schools. Details about Challenge Day are at [challengeday.org](http://challengeday.org). The commissioners agreed to include an agenda item for the next meeting for consideration of participation with Challenge Day and Northcoast Circle of Change.

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

**Phone call reports** Miller received five calls during his shift. One was a landlord situation with a home being identified as a drug house by the police department and one was a Native American man alleging excessive force during his arrest. The commissioners voiced appreciation of the work that Miller has done in taking calls from the jail.

Ward reported a call from jail, a call from a woman experiencing harassment in a trailer park and calls from four persons interested in possibly joining the commission.

**Other Correspondence** Botzler and Miller met with a man who had concerns about HSU’s University Police Department. They are continuing to work on the issue.

Botzler received a copy of a letter that was addressed to Phillip Crandall, Director of the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services, from the North Coast Association of Residential Care Administrators. The letter stated concerns about the lack of funded beds for the care and support of persons with mental health issues.

**Phone Duties**

|         |               |        |             |
|---------|---------------|--------|-------------|
| Munsee  | 16-31 March   | Tharp  | 1 – 15 May  |
| Lyons   | 1-14 April    | Filar  | 16 – 31 May |
| Lochtie | 15 – 30 April | Miller | 1 – 15 June |

**Committees, Liaisons, and Case Reports**

**Finance (Shaffer )** There is a current balance of \$540.54 in the commission account. Christina Allbright will check with the bar association or the ACLU for funding for the resource card printing costs.

**Law Enforcement (Miller)** Miller states that he thinks it would be a good idea to end calls from the jail to the HRC voice mail. He is continuing to work on a report about jail issues and he will include the recommendation to end jail calls in his report. Christina Allbright stated that the CPR group would meet on March 28<sup>th</sup> and that there is a police review blog online that is available for the public to read.

**Outreach and Education (Tharp/Filar)**

**Public Service Announcements** None planned at this time.

**Periodic Columns** None planned at this time.

**Harsh Public Response to Letters (Botzler/Munsee)** It was suggested that the letters received by the commission in response to a recent article written by the commission be held by the secretary in case any incident occurred.

**Web Site (Ward)** Typo was corrected, no other changes.

**Recognitions** None planned at this time.

**Internship (Tharp)** Tharp will meet with Will, the student who has volunteered to be an intern for the commission, about project ideas. Tharp will now be the internship coordinator for the commission.

**Event Calendar (Shaffer/Munsee)** Shaffer prepared a draft event calendar and it will be discussed at the next commission meeting.

**Unfinished Business**

**Email Discussion Policy** Some amendments to the proposed policy were made. Lochtie moved to approve the draft email discussion policy as amended, Tharp seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Citizen Law Enforcement Board Proposal** Botzler, Lochtie and Miller met with Supervisor Bonnie Neely about the draft proposal. Botzler proposes that we attempt to solicit comments from the Humboldt County Risk Manager, Kim Kerr, and from Sheriff Gary Phelps before the commission takes action on the proposal. Tharp made a motion for a subcommittee to meet with the necessary parties and work out details of the proposal. Shaffer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**New Business**

There was no new business before the commission.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Ward