

Humboldt County Human Rights Commission
Meeting of November 6, 2008
5 p.m. Conference Room A
Humboldt County Courthouse Eureka, California

- A. Attendance and Introductions
 - a. Present: Brake-Mills, Duncan (intern), Holt, Lochtie, Miller, Munsee, Sanders, Shaffer, Shelter
 - b. Excused: Altschuler, Herbelin, Tharp, Tillinghast
 - c. Guests: There were three guests present.

- B. Minutes
 - a. Minutes of the meeting of October 2 and of the special meeting held on October 11 were approved as presented.

- C. Public Comment
 - a. A guest reported that St Joseph's Hospital is closing its pediatric respite program, the only one of its kind in this area, because adequate funding is not available, and the local population is too small to warrant the continuation of the program.

- D. Telephone Calls, Correspondence, and Contact Reports
 - a. Telephone Calls - Lochtie reported on four calls. Two calls related to purportedly aggressive behavior on the part of members of The Eureka Police Department dealing with an incident outside Starbuck's. Another call related to rental issues which were resolved by the time Lochtie made contact, and a final call related to an issue related to aging which was also solved by the time the call was returned. Shelter reported having received five calls, mostly involving requests for information regarding the commission. Munsee reported having received five calls. Two, related to police matters, were referred to Miller. Another, related to what the caller thought was an abridgement of his civil rights, was referred to North Coast Legal Services. Two other calls were for information about The Commission. These people were given basic information and invited to attend tonight's Commission meeting.
 - b. Correspondence – No correspondence had been received. Sanders reported having contacted Eureka City Schools regarding our participation in the agency fair next year.
 - c. E-mail Reports – There were none.

- E. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance (Shaffer)
 - Shaffer reported a balance of \$1339.22 as of 9/30/08. He reported a gift of \$300.00 from retired commissioner Botzler.

- b. Outreach and Education (Tharp)
There was no report as Tharp was not present.
- c. Website (Munsee)
Munsee reported the website to be current.
- d. Recognition
There were no suggestions for recognition.
- e. Internship (Duncan)
Duncan reported continuing to work with Altschuler on The Universal Declaration of Human Rights observance.

F. Unfinished Business

- a. Law Enforcement Review Advisory Committee (Sanders)
Sanders reviewed the committee's draft proposal which had been e-mailed earlier to Commissioners for consideration. It was suggested that the word independent be inserted each time the word auditor is used in the document. Shaffer made a motion that the proposal be adopted with this change as a recommendation to The County Board of Supervisors. Lochtie seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Brake-Mills offered to review the document and correct typographical errors, and Sanders will add the word independent where appropriate. The proposal will be posted on the website of The Commission, and Sanders will arrange the time for the presentation to The Board of Supervisors. After some discussion of the funding of the proposed program, Lochtie moved and Holt seconded a motion that The Board of Supervisors be requested to fund the program which is estimated to cost approximately \$60,000 with the understanding that The Human Rights Commission will work to mitigate the cost by searching for grant money. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
There was no report on the work of this committee as Altschuler was absent.
- c. Homelessness in Humboldt County
After some discussion about the next step to be taken by The commission in dealing with this situation, Munsee moved and Lochtie seconded a motion that The Commission meet with members of the local homeless community on December 6 from 1:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon. Shelter offered The Endeavor as a site for the meeting, and he will publicize it throughout the community.
- d. Humboldt County Code Enforcement (Miller)
Miller reported that the County Code Enforcement Task Force has submitted its report to The County Board of Supervisors. The Board has accepted the report and requested the County Administrative Officer to review it and report back to The Board. The final report can be viewed on the county website.
- e. Immigration
Miller had nothing new to report.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10

Jean Munsee, Secretary