

Humboldt County Human Rights Commission
Meeting of September 3, 2009
5:00 pm Conference Room A
Humboldt County Courthouse, Eureka, California

A. Attendance and Introductions

- a. Present: Brake-Mills, Farber-Bush, Heise, Holt, Lochtie, Miller, Munsee, Pereira, Sanders, Shelter
- b. Absent: Altschuler, Aronoff, Herbelin
- c. Guests: There were no guests present

B. Minutes

- a. The minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

C. Public Comment

- a. As there were no guests, there was no public comment.

D. Telephone Calls, Correspondence, and E-Mail Reports

a. Telephone Calls

- 1. Shelter reported a call from a woman wanting to know the legality of starting a women-only health spa. She was referred to The Better business Bureau.
- 2. Pereira reported a call from a man in San Francisco who said he'd been wrongfully terminated from his job. He agreed to look for help locally and to call back if he needed our assistance. Another man left a message about difficulty in getting a driver's license. Pereira returned the call but got no response. Shelter said that The North Coast Resource Center can help people trying to get various sources of identification like drivers' licenses, birth certificates, etc. The Center offers personal and financial assistance.
- 3. Telephone Assignments
 - a. Heise September 1-15
 - b. Farber-Bush September 16-30
 - c. Miller October 1-15
 - d. Munsee October 16-31
 - e. Sanders November 1-15

b. Correspondence

- 1. Sanders reported having received a letter from Eureka High School telling about its Service Learning and Clubs Fair to be held on October 6. He will represent The Commission at this event. He also received a letter from The County Board of Supervisors reappointing Miller to The Commission.

c. E-Mail Contacts

- 1. There were no e-mail contacts.

E. Liaison, and Contact Reports

a. Finance (Lochtie)

1. In Lochtie's absence, Sanders reported a balance of \$831.40.

b. Outreach and Education (Altschuler)

1. No report from Altschuler. Miller, Shelter, and Sanders agreed to work as a committee to help educate the public regarding the housing situation in the county and to counteract the NIMBY syndrome.
2. Resource Cards
 - a. Sanders reported that the cards in Spanish are ready for printing, and it was agreed to start with 1000 which will be arranged by Farber-Bush. She will also look into the printing of stickers to be affixed to the cards already printed so that The North Coast Regional Center can be added as a resource.
3. Film Festival (Aronoff)
 - a. Aronoff absent, no report
4. Rental Issue in Eureka
 - a. Herbelin absent, no report

c. Website (Munsee)

- 1..Munsee said that the website has recently been updated.

d. Recognition (Sanders)

1. Sanders reported having sent a letter of appreciation to public employees. He also has submitted a My Word column to The Times-Standard on the same subject. It has yet to be printed.

F. Unfinished Business

a. Law Enforcement Advisory Committee (Sanders)

1. The proposal for this committee will be presented to The Board of Supervisors on September 15. Sanders said that the committee has agreed to set aside the hiring of an auditor until the county is in a better financial state to fund one. This element of the plan is not being dropped, just set aside temporarily. Commissioners were encouraged to attend the Board meeting.

b. Homelessness in Humboldt County (Shelter)

1. Miller reported having read the letter from this commission regarding the housing element and provisions for the homeless population. He will report at the next meeting of The Commission on the housing element and its relationship to the recommendations of The Commission.
2. Shelter told about the New Directions Program being operated out of The North Coast Regional Center. The program has been adopted by the city of Eureka to help solve the problems of the homeless. He was happy to report that at this time the Eureka city council, the business community, and law enforcement are all working together

on this issue. The Commission passed a motion by Pereira and seconded by Miller to loan Shelter up to \$250 to purchase a gps for use in the New Directions Program.

- c. Latino Net Fair (Lochtie)
 - 1. The Fair will be held on October 11, from noon until 4:00. Lochtie, Munsee, and possibly Herbelin will attend.
- d. Annual Report (Sanders)
 - 1. Sanders distributed copies of the report for corrections and comments. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Munsee to approve the report subject to grammatical corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

G. New Business

- a. An anti-oppression training sponsored by Democracy Unlimited will be conducted from 6:00 – 7:30 on Tuesday, September 8.
- b. Sanders suggested that we need a list of various events at which The Commission is represented so that we can anticipate these events and be better able to staff them. Munsee will survey various Commission documents to determine what these events are and will forward the information to Sanders who will compile the list

H. Adjournment

- a. The Commission adjourned at 6:30.

Jean Munsee, Secretary
Humboldt County Human Rights Commission