

Humboldt County Human Rights Commission  
Meeting of January 7, 2010  
5:00 p.m. Conference Room A  
Humboldt County Courthouse  
Eureka, California

A. Attendance and Introductions

- a. Present: Altshchuler, Brake-Mills, Herbelin, Heise, Lochtie, Miller, Munsee, Sanders, Shelter
- b. Absent: Pereira
- c. Guests: None

B. Minutes

- a. The minutes of the meeting of December 3 were unanimously approved as submitted.

C. Public Comment

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

D. Telephone Calls, Correspondence, and Case Reports

a. Telephone Calls

Pereira was absent. It is expected that she will report on calls she took at the next meeting. Heise reported having received three calls. One was from a person in another state. Another person called about inappropriate procedure enforced regarding extradition. Heise returned the call and left a message but did not receive a call back so assumed the caller had solved his problem. Rick Pastori called several times to update The Commission on the situation he had previously brought to a meeting of The Commission. Miller reported on two calls he handled. One was from a woman in San Luis Obispo wanting information regarding how to create a human rights commission in her community. Miller was able to describe the beginnings of the commission in Humboldt and to give her helpful direction. Another woman called to discuss her concern about handicap access to her building and right-of-way issues which she felt were being dismissed because of prejudice. Miller called The North Coast Small Business Center and contacted a person who agreed to call the woman to consult with her.

## Telephone Assignments

Miller	January 1-15
Munsee	January 16-31
Loctie	February 1-14
Sanders	February 15-28
Altschuler	March 1-15
Shelter	March 16-31

### b. Correspondence

Sanders circulated a letter from Supervisor Bonnie Neely terminating Don Holt from The Commission because of excessive absence. Sanders mentioned that Holt has been absent because of illness in his family. A letter was received from Stewart Altschuler recommending Kenna Adame as a new commissioner. This led to a discussion of the need for new Commissioners, and Loctie agreed to contact Latino Net to see if the person who recently translated our resource cards might be interested in becoming a member. A letter was also received from The Aids Task Force thanking The Commission for supporting World Aids Day.

## E. Committee, Liaison, and Case Reports

### a. Finance

Loctie reported a balance of \$821.40.

### b. Outreach and Education

Sanders reported that a news release regarding city proclamations supporting human rights had been sent to and printed by The Times-Standard during December, Human Rights Month. The HSU Volunteer Fair will take place the third week of February, and Heise will attend and supervise a table. Brake-Mills suggested that a laptop be on the table displaying the reading of The Universal Declaration from the celebration last month, and Miller suggested that a list of things to do to promote human rights be available for distribution. It was agreed to have copies of the List of 60 Things To Do To Honor the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights available. Commissioners agreed to think about ways The Commission could use and benefit an intern in anticipation of this fair. Some suggestions made at this meeting were:

Marketing and public relations for The Commission

Developing posters and brochures

Updating technology and files

### Working with Access Humboldt Project

c. Website

Munsee reported that information on the website is up-to-date.

d. Recognition

Lochtie suggested that a letter be written to The Board of Supervisors thanking members for establishing the Law Enforcement Liaison Committee and offering Commission support and willingness to help with the establishment and work of the committee. Sanders will write the letter. Sanders will also write a letter to Debi Farber-Bush thanking her for the work she did on behalf of The Commission on World Aids Day.

### F. Unfinished Business

a. Law Enforcement Liaison Committee

Sanders reported that The Board of Supervisors did vote to establish this committee which will consist of seven members. Five will be appointed by Supervisors, one will be appointed by the Sheriff, and one will be appointed by The Sheriff's Officers Association. Commissioners voiced the hope that appointments would be made soon so that the long-awaited committee could begin its work.

b. Homelessness

Shelter said the outlook for help for the homeless is encouraging since he sees a lot of collaboration among agencies taking place in the county right now. NCRC has received \$70,000 to help rehouse people and prevent eviction as well as \$17,000 to help those who are currently homeless.

Miller and Sanders reported having met with the Arcata police chief, Tom Chapman. They discussed two cases recently brought before The Commission. Chapman explained police procedures used in these cases and said the cases are now on the desk of the city manager. Consistency in application of the law was also discussed, and Sanders and Miller agreed that the meeting had been productive and that other meetings may be held in the future.

c. Collaboration With Access Humboldt

Pereira was absent, so there was no report on this item.. Lochtie, however, said the Access Humboldt has recently moved to a building owned by Eureka City Schools and is facing some new challenges. It was agreed that she will write a letter of support for this media center to The Board of The Eureka City Schools to be presented at the next Board meeting. It is hoped that Pereira will be available to present the letter to The Board.

d. Social Gathering of Commissioners

Commissioners will have a potluck luncheon from 11:00 – 3:00 on Sunday, January 24, at Altschuler's home in Ferndale. This gathering will not be a meeting, but rather a get-together to become

better acquainted with each other. Spouses and partners are welcome.

G. New Business

- a. There was no new business

Jean Munsee, Secretary  
Humboldt County Human Rights Commission