

**CITY OF NEW HOPE
4401 XYLON AVENUE NORTH
NEW HOPE, MINNESOTA 55428**

Human Rights Commission
Regular Meeting

November 1, 2010
New Hope Parks and Recreation Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER Chair Flaherty called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Peg Flaherty
Marie Hayes

Absent: Dean Gupta

Excused: Otis Jenkins

AGENDA APPROVAL Commissioner Hayes made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Flaherty, to approve the agenda. All voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVAL Commissioner Hayes made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Flaherty, to approve the minutes of October 4, 2010. All voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS
AND REPORTS** Sharing Committee: Commissioner Flaherty stated she had no clue as to what the Sharing Committee was. Staff Liaison Link reminded her that it was the Golden Valley Human Rights Committee members that she was going to follow up with regarding a panel they previously had with community members. Commissioner Flaherty stated there is news in both Golden Valley and another group that had a similar kind of thing. She stated she has emailed the Golden Valley commissioners and thinks maybe Crystal commissioners, but is not sure, maybe Robbinsdale, asking them how they went about setting up their whole discussion. Commissioner Flaherty also stated she sent a letter to Daniel Woodbury (Winnetka Learning Center) asking him if he had any ideas regarding how the commissioners could reach various ethnicities.

Commissioner Flaherty read Mr. Woodbury's response and stated:

- "It gives us a media audience to address varied backgrounds that can go back out into their own communities and tell people about us," and
- "It's a way of finding out whether or not there are people that we can cull from the Education Center for the panel discussion that we're hoping to have."

Commissioner Hayes stated that they had set a date previously (February 10, 2011) for a forum and Commissioner Flaherty was to find out how Golden Valley conducted their forum and see how those ideas could be incorporated into a program the New Hope HRC will put on.

Commissioner Flaherty asked Commissioner Hayes if she thought this was a good thing to do. There was quite a bit of confusion between the two. It was decided that two issues were being discussed at the same time which was causing the confusion.

Commissioner Flaherty stated she was still working on the Sharing Committee and when she gets that information she will email the other commissioners with that information. (This is the February 10 event discussed.)

Commissioner Flaherty stated that the other thing that Dan Woodbury suggested was setting up a table with information which the school would promote for a week or two, before the panel was conducted so it wouldn't be a total surprise (Winnetka Learning Center). The students could meet and greet the commissioners and shortly thereafter, Commissioner Flaherty would send another email to Dan Woodbury saying who among the students would like to participate in the sharing.

Commissioner Hayes wondered what the focus of the discussion could be. Commissioner Flaherty said it would be a panel where each immigrant would talk about their own life for about five minutes. Then the moderator would take over and the discussion would be opened to the community members. Commissioner Hayes questioned what would be hoped to gain from this. Commissioner Flaherty stated that what to be gained from this would be:

- "We've reached out to four individuals from the various communities across the world who have chosen to come here to the United States."
- "We learn about the different cultures from the sharing of information."
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Staff Liaison Link reiterated that it was agreed at the last meeting that the Golden Valley Commission members would be contacted to find out all the details. He thought it would be prudent to get that information first. Commissioner Flaherty stated she would get the information by November 11 and send it to the other commissioners via email.

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast: Staff Liaison Link stated that brochures about the HRC that were printed in other languages were made available at this breakfast. He noticed that not many were picked up since the breakfast did not have much diversity in the audience.

2011 Essay Contest: Staff Liaison Link has received the materials and contacted the school and will get those materials to the school. The completed essays are to be turned in by March 4, 2011.

**COMMUNICATION/
INFORMATION
SHARING**

- There will be a Liberian Roundtable on November 13 in Brooklyn Park.
- A discussion was held whether or not for the commissioners will meet with the City Council at their November 15 work session, as

was scheduled, or postpone that until sometime in the future.
Nothing definitive was concluded.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the New Hope Human Rights Commission will be December 6, 2010, at 7 p.m., in the Parks and Recreation conference room.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hayes made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Flaherty, to adjourn the regular meeting of the New Hope Human Rights Commission. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary B. Link
Staff Liaison