

Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission Meeting
Monday, March 12, 2012
7:00 P.M. Lincolnwood Council Chambers

1. **Roll Call:** Present: Anna A. Pawlowski, Jean Ikezoe Halevi, Anjum Ali, Paul Kramer, Stacie Katsiabaros, Martina Keller, Maria Ugarte Ramos. Excused: Mary Koleff May, Rita Eng.
Guest: Sgt. Mark Weidner.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were approved with small changes.
3. **Report on Expenditures & Reimbursements:** There is \$474.16 in the budget as of now.
4. **HRC Leadership:** The new fiscal year starts in May. There should be a new slate formed in April and the position of historian should be brought back, to be considered at the April meeting. Jean will put the slate together.
5. **HRC Award:** The deadline for submitting candidates for the HRC Award is 4/20/12. A letter describing the candidate is sufficient as a nomination. Stacie suggested sending a memo to the Lincolnwood PTA, to various Village departments and other Commissions, and perhaps companies in the Village that have HRC departments of their own. She will research this for the next meeting. Paul will draft a short request for nominations.
6. **Food Drive:** Rita is not at this meeting, but we know all collection boxes are in place. The posters have not been printed yet, the total cost, according to Rita, will be \$450.00. Since there will be permanent collection boxes in the Village hall and at the police department, two kinds of posters will be printed.
7. **CILA Issue:** Anjum, Martina and Maria will have a meeting with Mayor Turry on Wed, 3/14/12, regarding the group homes issue. Martina asked for information from other villages, but no one contacted her yet. Some ideas for the future: teaching our community about disability situations and dealing with them.
8. **Report to the Village:** Anjum will give a report to the Village Committee of the Whole on 4/3/12, possibly a power point, outlining the activities of HRC for the year. A copy of this presentation will be given to the trustees to follow during the meeting.
9. **July 4th Event:** Carol Janossy will again conduct the Youth String orchestra in a concert of patriotic music; there will be light refreshments (water, fruit and popcorn), fruit provided by Lincolnwood Produce. Maria suggested we ask for specific amounts of fruit to be donated. There was also a suggestion to ask the audience for food donations for the Niles Food Pantry. A member of HRC will thank the listeners for coming and ask for questions, at the end of the concert. We need to have more programs to hand out which we will print ourselves. A notice about the concert will be sent this week to the May/June Connections issue. An HRC member might be at the Village brick dedication ceremony to hand out material.
10. **Naturalization Ceremony:** Martina spoke to Jan Hincapie about the ceremony. It will be held in the Community Center on 6/5/12, at 3:00 PM. HIAS, the Hebrew Immigration Aid Society, will run the event and Jan asked us for 10 volunteers to help greeting, directing traffic etc. Staging for the

ceremony will start at 2:00 PM in the Village Hall and a reception will also be held there after the event. Martina will email the school administration and ask for some artwork from students to congratulate the candidates. Anjum suggested HRC flyers be handed out at the time, if possible. We can ask any former HRC member to help us, perhaps scout groups will be interested and/or the ELL Center. Martina and Maria will get information.

11. **Diversity Month Display:** Mark informed us the average cost of a flag is \$60.00. Some flags are much more expensive, some are destroyed by the weather quickly, others need repairs. He suggests we raise the suggested donation to \$60.00 and say that the donation will keep the flag flying for 5 years. Paul said we should add "...or any amount..." to that. Maria will send out a new draft of the request for donations. Stacie will be a lead person for reviewing and decision making.
12. **An HRC Kick-Off Event – Proposal:** Stacie proposed the following options: Attending school and other functions to acquaint people with HRC; collecting a list of possible volunteers; participating in "walk to school day" in Oct. and the picnic at the end of the school year as well as in "Passport to the World" if held. Anjum - how can we expand what we do – can we hand out flyers to parents at school events?
13. **Publicity tasks:** Maria suggested sending updated assignment sheets as they are put together, by email, sharing tasks and publicity. Stacie suggested putting together a binder with our activities, successes and failures as our schedule outlines, analyzing and refining as we go. Rita will order HRC shirts for Stacie and Martina.
14. **Old Business:** Anjum: Home and Garden show will be held in the Lincolnwood Town Center, but thinking of past such events, we will not participate. On 3/18/12 at 3:00, the Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra will play Korean music at the Community center.
Mary (though absent) suggested making an HRC poster for display during our events.
We will be more involved in the winter carnival next year.
Jean sent 2 emails to the people who gave us their emails to receive information. One is not valid, the other person did not answer.
Paul suggested adding Mark's email and the village website to our flyer, which Mark brought for review and which looks good.
Rita will order HRC shirts for Stacie and Martina. Mark and Anna will look for the HRC scrapbook.
15. **Old Business:** As before, we will be giving out small items during the Memorial Day parade. Jean will research seeds, Mark will check out flags. Mandatory training for Commissioners will take place in the Village chambers on 4/2/12 at 7:00 PM. An option is viewing a video.

The meeting adjourned at 9:47 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for 4/9/12.