

Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission Meeting
Monday, July, 9 2012
7:00 PM Lincolnwood Council Chambers
Minutes Prepared by Martina Keller

1. **Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm. Present – Jean Ikezoe Halevi, Anna Pawlowski, Martina Keller, Paul Kramer, Sgt. Mark Weidner, Mary Koleff-May , Rita Eng and John Swanson (Trustee Liaison). Excused – Anjum Ali. Absent – Stacy Katsibaros,
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes were approved with no changes.
3. **Report on Expenditures:** Discussion was tabled for next month.
4. **Food Drive:** Jean is in the process of preparing thank you letters for all the parties that hosted a donation box. Paul mentioned that at the time of the meeting there were 4 bags of groceries in the permanent donation box located in Village Hall.
5. **Mandatory Village Training Session Review:** Jean previously had asked that all members of the HRC complete the village hosted training before the July meeting, but not everyone had a chance to do so. In addition to the village training, all members are required to complete an on-line training administered by the Illinois Attorney General. Mark and Martina both completed the Illinois training and submitted their certifications. They said the Illinois on-line training takes anywhere from 30-90 minutes depending on how closely one scrutinizes the material. Mark is available as a resource during the day shift if anyone has any difficulties accessing the on-line training.
6. **Naturalization Ceremony:** Agenda included an item to discuss costs for creating cards for the naturalization ceremony participants on behalf of the HRC, but discussion was tabled.
7. **HRC Award:** The HRC Award ceremony was held at the Board of Trustees meeting on June 19. Jean reported that it went very well. Mr. Grossman, last year's HRC award recipient and the principal nominating party of this year's award, introduced this year's recipient, Leah Yarrow. Ms. Yarrow was gracious in accepting the well-deserved award. Rita reported that the award plaque cost \$130.50. Anna reported that the gift fruit basket was \$49.23.
8. **Independence Day Concert:** Jean thanked everyone who helped with the preparation for the concert. It was extremely hot the day of the concert, but no emergencies were reported. Jean estimated 125 people in attendance plus the 40 members of the orchestra. The Village public works employees

were very helpful in setting up the chairs. Feedback from members of the public was that the music was great and the complimentary fruit provided by the HRC was “refreshing.” Lincolnwood Produce donated all the fruit. Carol Janossy, the orchestra director, was given a Target gift card as a token of thanks from the HRC. The only negative report was that the rented popcorn machine did not work properly. Rita reported that the machine was returned with no charge for the rental. Expenditures for the concert include: \$71.87 for Target (gift card & incidentals) and \$12.87 for the water.

9. **Connections Blurbs:** HRC activities were reported in a recent village press release, including information about the HRC Award ceremony and a solicitation of donations to purchase new flags. Paul suggested that we see if some HRC information can be posted to the community cable site on Channel 6.
10. **Buy a Brick Ribbon Cutting Ceremony:** The village will be hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, July 17 at 7:00 pm. Apparently the ceremony will commemorate Phase I of the brick implementation project.
11. **Library Food Donation Box:** At last month’s meeting it was announced that the library had requested a food donation box in connection with one of its special summer programs. Mark delivered a box as requested.
12. **Diversity Month Flag Display:** Mark will pick up the cleaned and repaired flags from Mary’s house. Jan Hincapie, Director of Parks and Recreation, donated funds to purchase the flag of Colombia. Paul commented that the flags will be on display during the Lincolnwood Fest this year, due to the later dates of the festival this year.
13. **Library Display Case:** Discussed ideas for the library’s display case for the months of November. All members were encouraged to think about ideas for next meeting. Everyone liked the idea of musical instruments/games/toys. Members will loan items for display. Members also will recruit other families in Lincolnwood to loan objects within the selected theme.
14. **Library Ethnic Fest:** The Ethnic Fest will be held on November 4, 2012 from 1:00 to 4:00. Discussed ideas for a game or activity that the HRC will sponsor at the event. Suggestions included: geography bee questions, flag identification, word search, and identifying photos or items. Small prizes will be made available for winners.
15. **Cards for Former HRC Members:** Jean brought a thank you card for Yiannis and for Maria for members to sign.
16. **2012-2013 Meeting Schedule:** Jean wants to know in advance when members will be unable to attend meetings. This measure will allow the HRC

to be prepared in the event of a failure to have a quorum pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. The next scheduled meeting is for August 13. Jean asked if anyone knew if he or she would be absent from that meeting. All in attendance responded that they would be there.

17. **Old Business:** Jean's expenditure for the signs used in the parade was \$92.00. She submitted the receipts to Mary.

18. **New Business:** Jean suggested forming a subcommittee to revamp the HRC Award nominating process.

Jean was contacted recently by a resident who was upset about the upcoming zoning variance and special use permit petitions posed by Shore Galleries to move its gun store to a new location in Lincolnwood and to establish a shooting range on the premises. Members discussed the circumstances. Martina volunteered to attend the July 17 Board of Trustees meeting in which the issue formally would be addressed in order to raise the awareness of the issue on behalf of the HRC.

Jean expressed concern that Stacy had neither attended nor sought to be excused from the last two meetings.

Members discussed the fact that the HRC is still one member short. Members should think about neighbors in Lincolnwood who might be good candidates for the HRC.

2012-13 Commission meeting attendance. Jean would like advance notification from any member unable to attend a commission meeting. Missing 3 meetings from May 2012 until April 2013 will lead to disqualification from the HRC.

19. **Public Questions or Comments:** none.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2012.