

Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission Meeting  
Monday, December 10, 2012  
7:00 PM Lincolnwood Council Chambers  
Minutes Prepared by Martina Keller

1. **Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm. Present – Jean Ikezoe Halevi, Martina Keller, Paul Kramer, Sgt. Mark Weidner, Mary Koleff-May, Anjum Ali, Stacy Katsibaros, Rita Eng, Anna Pawlowski. and Rebecca Kohn. Village Trustee, John Swanson, was also present. Jean welcomed Rebecca as our newest member.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the November meeting were approved with one minor change.
3. **Report on Expenditures & Reimbursements:** Balance is \$1,327.84.
4. **Diversity Month Flag Display - Update:** Mark reported that we have approximately 54 flags. The maximum capacity for display is 80, so we can easily add more flags to the inventory if necessary. Mark reported that at least 2 flags need to be replaced. Mark recommended that the HRC purchase the following items:
  - i. 24 poles
  - ii. 12 brackets
  - iii. 5 additional foreign flags
  - iv. 10 Unites States flagsMark calculated that the amount for the proposed items would be approximately \$772. Group agreed that this was a reasonable and appropriate proposal. Jean asked the group to look at the list of flags to see which countries may not be adequately represented in our inventory.
5. **Connections Blurb:** The next issue will be in January. Jean will ask that the following HRC items be included: a list of HRC quiz winners from the Library's Ethnic Fest; an announcement for our 10<sup>th</sup> annual HRC award; a reminder of our upcoming food drive. Jean proposed that the HRC ask for the following items to be included in the April issue: a reminder for the HRC food drive, a request for nominations for the annual HRC award, and an invitation to donate money for flags.
6. **Village Training Session Review:** Mary and Stacy are still in the certification process for the Illinois Open Meetings Act requirements. Rebecca has completed her certification process. Mark offered to help Mary and Stacy if they are experiencing technical difficulties with the system.
7. **Misericordia Open House:** Jean will follow up with contacts at Misericordia to determine when the open house will be held.

**8. Open Communities:** Martina reported that Open Communities is a nonprofit, membership-based group dedicated to fostering economically and culturally diverse communities. The organization works collaboratively with local groups and municipalities to foster fair housing practices and to make suburban communities more “welcoming, inclusive and just.” Martina reported that member organizations include several chapters of the League of Women Voters, as well as at least 3 Human Relations Commission counterparts of nearby suburbs. Although it does not appear that there are regularly scheduled meetings, membership to Open Communities provides certain benefits, including up-to-date reports about fair housing issues in the North Suburban Chicago area, networking opportunities with other similar municipal organizations, opportunities to promote our own events through the Open Communities communication network, and occasional offerings of training and advocacy sessions. Annual membership costs \$100. Discussion was tabled as to whether we want to join Open Communities as a municipal commission.

**9. 10<sup>th</sup> Annual HRC Award – Rewrite:** Mary distributed a draft one-page revised nomination form. All members liked the revision in general. Anjum and Paul suggested that the form include language that invites documentation in support of the nomination, such as newspaper clippings. Mark also suggested it should include instructions on where to send the nomination. Presently, the award nomination form is not interactive on line, but Mark thinks there is a way that people will be able to complete and submit the form directly on line. Anjum recommended that we keep the old background information about the award as an information source on line.. Mary will send the revised form to Mark for finalization. Mark will take the old form down from the website.

**10. 2012-2013 Meeting Schedule:** The next meetings will be held on January 14 respectively. No one declared any conflicts on those dates.

**11. Old Business:**

- a. Mark would like a high/low cost projection for every HRC event in order to present that to the Village Board.
- b. There is no need for new or additional signs and boxes for our upcoming food drive.
- c. Jean reminded Mark that our website and promotional materials need to be updated to include Rebecca.

**12. New Business:**

- a. Representatives of Lincolnwood Baseball approached Paul to see if the HRC had any ideas about how to reach more ethnic communities in Lincolnwood.
- b. John advised the HRC that the Village will soon be undertaking a large scale sewer project that will impact the community. He raised a discussion about how best to communicate with each and every

resident of Lincolnwood in order to get maximum community feedback.

- c. Mark reported that he was contacted by David Salvi of the Niles Food Pantry, who had proposed a collaboration with the HRC to host a “manned” table at the Lincolnwood Town Center Mall for a food drive. The manager of the mall has indicated that we can put a food drive box in the mall. We will consider that.
- d. Mark announced that the Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra would be giving a free performance of Holiday Music from Around the World on December 16 at 3:00 pm at the Lincolnwood Town Center Mall.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2013 at 7:00 pm.