



Commissioners Present: Jessica Bradshaw, Jerrold Hennrich, Hugh Muldoon, Sherry Ratcliffe, Sam Thomas, Dora Weaver

Commissioners Excused: Jeraldine Brown, Pat Keenan

Commissioners Absent: Sidney Logwood

Study Circle Staff Present: Sarah Heyer

Guests Present: Dianna Brawley Sussmann

Staff Present: Mayor Joel Fritzler, Deborah McCoy

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chair Muldoon who welcomed and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Hennrich and seconded by Commissioner Weaver to accept the minutes from the meeting held June, 2012, with the correction of Commissioner Hennrich's name. Motion carried.

Announcements

Summer 2012 Anti-Violence Discussion Series – sponsored by Women's Center. All events to be held at Women's Center, 610 Thompson Street.

Thursday, July 12, 1:30-3:30 pm – Helping Transgender Survivors of Sexual Assault

Wednesday, July 18, 5:00-7:00 pm – Confronting Street Harassment

Tuesday, July 24, 5:00-7:00 pm – Exploring the Purity Myth

Monday, July 30, 5:00-7:00 pm – Consent & Sexual Assault

Thursday, August 9, 1:30-3:30 pm – Dismantling Barriers for Transgender Survivors

Diversity and Tolerance on SIUC Campus (Brochure) – SIUC, Dr. Linda McCabe Smith, Associate Vice Chancellor for the Office of Diversity & Equity. Chair Muldoon spoke with the office and was told they had received over 40 complaints. Chair Muldoon suggested that Dr. Smith be invited to speak at a Human Relations Commission (HRC) meeting.

Girl Scouts – Commissioner Weaver commented that she will be contacting the Mayor about inclusion on the July agenda.

July 2, 2012

August 25, 2012 – Carbondale Community Day at Minor’s Park. Mayor Fritzler will throw the first pitch. Several ticket packets will be available. The National Anthem will be played by the CCHS band. Contact Commissioner Ratcliffe for more information.

Public Comments - None

Study Circles Report

Coordinator Heyer commented that the Neighborhood Action Group would not be meeting in July and notes from their June 6 meeting were distributed.

Non-Violent Carbondale Project Progress Report

The NVCP is still partnering with HRC and trying to determine how it will proceed. NVCP will schedule a retreat-meeting on July 19 to discuss its direction.

Carbondale as a Compassionate City

Dianna Brawley Sussman, Director of the Carbondale Public Library, reviewed the purpose and goals of the HRC, “Twelve Steps To A Compassionate Life” by Karen Armstrong, and the path to becoming a Compassionate City. There was much discussion regarding what needs to be done to become a Compassionate City. It was pointed out that a lot of compassion-related work has already taken place in Carbondale and that work needed to be recorded and reported. Concerns were also raised regarding the magnitude of the work, the coordination of the work, and the need to address real issues. Commissioners made great suggestions for next steps in the process. It was agreed that the HRC would be registered as the working group with the understanding that a plan would be submitted within a year. In the meantime, a proposal would be prepared to submit to the City Council to consider declaring Carbondale a Compassionate City. Commissioner Bradshaw indicated her willingness to help prepare these documents.

Other Business/Reports

Mayor Fritzler stated that he would like the HRC to review the issue of gaming machines (gambling) and make a recommendation to the City Council. He explained that the HRC was being approached because gambling is an issue that will have an impact on human relations in Carbondale. Two years ago the Council voted not to allow the machines. The Eagles and Elks are presently lobbying Council members to approve the machines. The Mayor will get information to the Commissioners in advance of the August meeting. Mayor Fritzler indicated that he would like for the Council to have an open and objective discussion on the issue.

Next Meeting: August 6, 2012 – Civic Center

Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.