



Commissioners Present: Jessica Bradshaw, Patricia Keenan, Hugh Muldoon,

Commissioners Excused: Jeraldine Brown, Sidney Logwood, Sherry Ratcliffe

Commissioners Absent: Sam Thomas

Study Circle Staff Present: Sarah Heyer

Guests Present: Zainul Abedin, Gina Einig, Jenn Freitag, Breona Hawkins, Betsy Herman, Noah Leverett, D. W. Norris, Bill Sasso, Dianna Brawley Sussman, Dora “Micki”Weaver,

Staff Present: Deborah McCoy

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Chair Muldoon who welcomed attendees.

Minutes

A quorum was not present, therefore, no action was taken on the minutes of the April 2, 2012 meeting.

Announcements

Commissioners – Candle Wester-Mittan and Joe Hassert will no longer be able to serve on the Human Relations Commission as both will be relocating.

Tuesday, May 8, 2012 – *The Prisoner Amongst Us* facilitated by Jeff McGoy, Carbondale Civic Center, 7:30 p.m. Jeff McCoy, SIUC Master of Arts graduate in Performance Studies, shares personal and research experience with prisoners to bridge the distance between the public and prison inmates. Event sponsored by Peace Coalition of Southern Illinois.

Public Comments

Micki Weaver – Breona Hawkins, a graduating Senior Ambassador with the Girl Scouts is organizing a Music Mentorship Program for Southern Illinois as part of an effort to earn the Gold Award. Free music lessons will be offered to children in Southern Illinois. Breona explained that she got the idea from a workshop she attended at SIUC where attendees were asked to write down three important things. She wrote 1) family, 2) education and 3) music and decided that all three could be incorporated in mentoring through music. Micki Weaver explained that the goal is for the program to become a non-profit organization and to be a way to channel kids towards positive involvement.

Brazil has one of the largest music mentoring programs. Noah Leverett indicated that he

HRC Meeting Notes - Page 2

May 7, 2012

would like to volunteer to assist with the program. Individuals are being asked to donate their time and talents to the program. Anyone interested in helping can contact Micki Weaver at 618-534-8299 or doraweaver2@frontier.com.

Study Circles Report

No report.

Non-Violent Carbondale Project Progress Report

No report.

Other Reports

None

Presentation: Video on the update of Karen Armstrong's views and her efforts for Charter for Compassion to be established all over the globe where people practice the *Golden Rule*. Following the video, discussion on how to proceed in Carbondale took place. The general consensus included: using HRC as the organizational base for the Compassionate Carbondale Campaign, recruiting HRC members who will work on the plan, creating action-based job descriptions, developing a general plan that distributes project responsibilities over a realistic time frame, identifying lead agencies or core groups within 10 sectors of the City and invite them to work on compassion within their area for one of the following ten years, insuring that the focus within each sector is on real problems or issues that can be worked on through a compassion approach – keep it all grounded with hands-on work having demonstrable outcomes, considering the following ideas – landlord-tenant relations, gaps in health care provisions, gender violence, inclusion in art education and training opportunities for youth, prisoner and prisoner family support, checking the experiences and approaches of other Charter for Compassion cities, developing means and ways to get others on board starting with the City Council. Discussion to continue at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: June 4, 2012 – Carbondale Public Safety Center

Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8:28 p.m.

Recorded by Deborah McCoy