



Commissioners Present: Jeraldine Brown, Joseph Brown, Peg Falcone, Jovan Gathings, Jerrold Hennrich, Faith Miller, Blaine Tisdale, Dora Weaver

Commissioners Excused: Lauren Bonner, Les O'Dell

Commissioners Absent:

Study Circle Staff Present: Sarah Heyer

Guests Present: Elius Reed, Daniel Sliwa

Staff Present: Deborah McCoy, Lieutenant Matthew Dunning

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Hennrich at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Joseph Brown and seconded by Commissioner Jeraldine Brown to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2013, meeting with the correction that the next meeting will be held September 9, 2013. Motion carried.

Announcements

October 5: Irish Festival; American Heart Association Walk at JALC; Neighborhood Co-op Tent Sale; Keep Carbondale Beautiful Plant Sale

Public Comments

Mr. Reed reported that no progress has been made regarding the complaint filed with the State NAACP on the house party held in fall 2012. He commented that Mayor Fritzler visited a party, sponsored by Iota Phi Theta Fraternity during the first weekend of the semester.

Study Circles Report

Neighborhood Action

Coordinator Heyer reported the Neighborhood Action Group met Wednesday, September 4, 2013, and decided a retreat was not necessary. Mary O'Hara visited other neighborhood groups to hear their issues. The Neighborhood will have a table at the Irish Festival to have folks join a neighborhood group. MAP Your Neighborhood is not expanding because people are not willing to go out without there being an issue or concern.

Continuing the Dialogue/Education

Commissioner Joseph Brown commented on the dialogue that has sprung out of the showing of the “778 Bullet” documentary. He will contact the group to see if someone can attend the next HRC meeting.

Race Relations

This group focused on improving relationships between the police and the community. This topic continues to be viable.

Non-Violent Carbondale Project Progress Report

NVCP planning *11 Days of Peace* in conjunction with the Peace History Conference that will also take place in October. There will be several different events taking place throughout the community. The Charter for Compassion was also mentioned and Commissioners were reminded to visit www.charterforcompassion.org for additional information. Vice Chair Hennrich will contact Councilwoman Bradshaw for an update and additional information.

Old Business

Law Enforcement Reports:

Vice Chair Hennrich reported a letter was sent to Chief O’Guinn on August 6. Lieutenant Dunning reported that he was told that the Chief has already provided the information that he is authorized to provide and further inquiries should be addressed or directed to the Mayor and City Manager. Commissioners authorized a FOIA request and Vice Chair Hennrich will submit that request and contact the Mayor and City Manager about obtaining the information and provide an update to the Commission.

HRC Responsibilities, Role, Charges: Continuing to review and work on the Bylaws. The HRC will meet on Monday, October 7, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. with the first half hour devoted to discussing the Bylaws.

Continuing the Dialogue: Commissioner Gathings reported that he and Commissioner Bonner met and discussed the Resource Center groups to be included. The groups were contacted and are excited about being involved. Commissioner Brown indicated that his understanding was that the Resource Center would help get students to the *Welcome to Carbondale!* event and that University Housing should also be contacted. Commissioners agreed that the *Welcome to Carbondale!* event would move forward as planned at the August meeting. The event will take place on Saturday, November 2. Commissioner Falcone agreed to chair a committee to develop a flyer and help move the plans forward. The committee agreed to meet early next week with a draft of the flyer to be forwarded to Commissioners

Forum – “Ending Disparities in African American Communities” Commissioner Miller reported that the event will take place on Thursday, September 26, 2013, 6:00 p.m. at the Civic Center. The agenda consists of welcome and introductions, purpose of the forum, testimony, discussion, and closing remarks. The panel will consist of approximately 15 people and testimonials will be limited to three minutes each. The forum is a hearing and not a debate. Individuals should come with prepared statements and at least 15 copies. Panelists will include members of the Illinois Commission that represent criminal justice, employment, economics, education, and child welfare. HRC Commissioners agreed that Commissioner Miller will provide the opening remarks on their behalf.

Documentary Updates: "778 Bullets": Commissioner Joseph Brown will contact Professor Aguayo about the continuing dialogue and the documentary. Mr. Sliwa, a student of Professor Aguayo, indicated that the documentary was short and could probably be shown at an HRC meeting. Mr. Sliwa will bring a copy to the next HRC meeting.

New Business

Commissioners discussed the vacant Chair position. Motion was made by Commissioner Tisdale and seconded by Commissioner Weaver to recommend to Mayor Fritzler that Commissioner Hennrich be considered for the Chair position. Motion carried. Motion was made by Commissioner Weaver and seconded by Commissioner Joseph Brown that Commissioner Gathings serve as Vice Chair. Motion carried. Ms. McCoy was charged with reporting the action of the Commission to Mayor Fritzler.

Next Meeting: October 7, 2013, **6:00 p.m.**

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

Recorded by Deborah McCoy _____