

Brookings Human Rights Commission Notes (unapproved)

Friday, January 17, 2020

Cooper Room, Brookings Public Library

Attendance: Meagan Irvine-Miller (chair); Matt Rhodes (county representative & vice-chair); Lawrence Novotny, (recorder); Kati Hanson; Hanna Holmquist; Jason Meusbarger; Erinn Thomas; Kas Williams (SDSU liaison); Casey Bell (city human resources technician – staff liaison);

Absent: Penny Hauffe; Marilyn Hildreth; Wren Murphy (student representative); Marci Gebers (police liaison); Susan Rotert (city human resources director – staff liaison);

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm.

Rhodes moved, Thomas seconded, to adopt the agenda. Motion passed.

Meusbarger moved, Hanson seconded, to approve the minutes of the December 17 meeting. Motion passed

Liaison/EC/Staff Reports:

Williams distributed posters announcing SDSU's Diversity Academy events for the spring and announcing events of SDSU's Multi-Cultural Center for the spring.

The Brookings Public Library is hosting a black history re-enactment event in February.

SDSU received the Bush diversity enhancement grant that it applied for. One of the grant goals is to work with local employers to help them diversify their workforce. Rhodes will be BHRC's point person in working on community projects involved with the grant.

Novotny will work on compiling the 2019 annual report.

Diversity Potluck

Date is April 19. Miller, Hanson, and Novotny are on the committee to come up with the program for the potluck.

Legislature

HB 1057 punishes medical personnel who conduct transgender modification procedures or provide hormone prescriptions to minors who consider themselves to be transgender. Miller submitted testimony in opposition to HB 1057 to the House State Affairs Committee.

King Contest

Around 40 posters were received from 4th grade and around 15 from 5th grade. The posters were judged by Holmquist, Miller, Thomas and Hanson. Thomas moved, Holmquist seconded, that the poster winners are as follows. Motion passed.

- 4th grade
 - 1st place (\$25) – Tyler Davis
 - 2nd place (\$15) – Dante Martinson
 - 3rd place (\$10) – Shawna Nupen

- Honorable mention (certificate) – Allyson Couser
- 5th grade
 - 1st place (\$25) – Tauyn Jae Everding
 - 2nd place (\$15) – Autumn Brink
 - 3rd place (\$10) – Honor Naughtau
 - Honorable mention (certificate) – Lexi Erp

Eight essays were received from Middle School and three from High School. The essays were judged by Novotny, Meusburger, Rhodes, Murphy and Williams. Meusburger moved, Rhodes seconded, that the essay winners are as follows. Motion passed.

- Middle school
 - 1st place (\$100) --Anika Hooda
 - 2nd place (\$75) -- Shae Lefers
 - 3rd place (\$50) -- Taya Haselhorst
- High school
 - 1st place (\$100) --Grace Enz
 - 2nd place (\$75) --Cherish Stern
 - 3rd place (\$50) -- Victoria Diersen

The posters will be displayed in the Brookings Public Library.

All of the winners will be presented with their prizes at the City Council meeting on January 28.

Bell will send thank you notes to the teachers for encouraging their students to enter the contest.

2020 Goals

The 2020 goals were reviewed and these suggestions were made.

- Limit the King poster contest to 4th & 5th grades instead of the previous K-5.
- Diversity potluck will be held in the spring. No fall potlucks.
- Consider an alternative event to replace the fall potluck such as a town hall meeting or a debate.
- Brookings Multi-Cultural Center and Bienvenidos a Brookings are planning a block party in September as part of Hispanic Heritage Month. Is BHRC interested in participating?
- No trainings were conducted in 2019. Maybe try to hold a training this year in conjunction with the Bush grant. Consider diversity and safe zone training for city and BMU employees. Invite Brookings Health System and County employees to participate in the trainings.

We will continue the review of the goals at the February meeting.

Next meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, February 18.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:37pm

Submitted by *Lawrence Novotny*, recorder