

Sullivan County Human Rights Commission
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
Thursday, April 2, 2015

Present: Eric, Judy, Roland, Gabriel, Kathie (not a quorum)

Meeting called to order at 5:25 p.m.

- I. Approval of last month's minutes – We did not have a quorum, so approval not necessary.
- II. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Undoing Racism Workshop (sponsored by the Orange County Human Rights Commission) has invited Eric to participate. He will report back on that event.
 - B. Bringing Agencies Together (BAT) – Eric went to this event. A good place to network, offering many workshops, some free, some for cost. Eric will bring materials that we have from the State to our next meeting so we can see what we have (for sharing at inter-agency events, or other publicity).
- III. Executive Committee Report – the committee met in March and discussed:
 - A. Sending a certified letter to Catherine (The first certified letter was sent, delivered and signed for, but with no response from Catherine. A second letter was sent, but returned as “undeliverable.” Her term is over, so she will not be reinstated.)
 - B. Eileen H. Weil Scholarship Brunch on April 26. Judy, Eric and Kathie will introduce the HRC together this year. Judy had fliers for commission members to distribute in the community.
 - C. In the process of applying for a grant to train facilitators for Everyday Democracy. Eric will talk to the following people to see if they have suggestions for facilitators: Joe Tedora, Kathy Kreiter (Fed. Of the Homeless), Rita Eason (Catholic Charities). The following people are already on board: Helen Budrock, Ira Steingart, Walter Stein (CACHE), Jim Farrell, Laura Quigley (Workforce Development).
- IV. Issues Committee Report – Two current complaints, one related to housing and one to public accommodation
 - A. A woman is complaining that the manager of her apartment has been harassing her, has made anti-Hispanic remarks, wants to evict her, and

won't accept her rent money. Eric has called HVLS to get legal representation, and they will do an intake. Eric submitted the complaint to NYS, but HVLS will follow up on it. Meanwhile, Eric advised the complainant to escrow her rent in a bank account.

- B. A woman called to say that her son (Hispanic) was in county jail, and had been beaten. A registered sex offender, he had moved without notifying, and the police had arrested him on a warrant. The woman says he was abused because he is Hispanic. She has a lawyer for him.

- V. Outreach Committee Report – Eric is still working with Jamie Sameral on a Tenants' Rights Forum to be held in Livingston Manor – but it's a stretch for Jamie to do one there.

- VI. Old Business

- VII. New Business – Judy has an interesting film on the origins of racism, and it was suggested that we meet at her house to view it. Date TBA.

- VIII. Public Comment

- IX. Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 6:08