

## **Wake Forest Human Relations Council**

### **Minutes**

**May 28, 2009**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Karen Clagett, Chairman, Allyson Rayfield, Sherry Burchett, Karen McVickers, Richard Longhway, Anne Hines, ex-officio, Tammy Moody, Staff Liaison

**Absent:** Nicole Hedrick, Tim Roth

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clagett.

### **New Business**

Chairman Clagett introduced Gene Troy from the North Carolina Human Relations Commission. Mr. Troy talked to the Council about the state budget, hate crimes and training that the NC HRC offers.

Mr. Troy stated that the state budget is not looking good and the state is looking at cutting everything and how this would impact the HRC. He noted that budget will impact elderly care, fair housing issues, racial tension and the economy. He also mentioned how education will be cut and how the teachers will be protesting and other cutbacks will involve healthcare, civil and human rights issues, hiring freezes, reduction in force, cutting back positions in the police and fire departments, and most of all trying to balance the budget.

Mr. Troy wanted the HRC to be aware of what is going on especially if someone comes to see this Council concerning issues that they have encountered.

Mr. Troy talked about hate crimes and told the Council that they have not heard of any here in Wake Forest, but Hate Crimes are on the rise. North Carolina ranks high in the nation for hate crime groups. He stated that immigration reform, economic recession and the new president has changed the number. The NC HRC sent out alerts for Hate Crime Groups for the month of January, February and April because these months have holiday's that might spark the hate crimes such as Martin Luther King's holiday, HRC month, etc.

Mr. Troy discussed sexual orientation and gay marriages along with school violence. He will send Chairman Clagett any alerts that they receive on Hate Crimes across the state and she can inform the Council.

Mr. Troy stated that training is what they do and they can come out and conduct training as they did in the past and that is something that the HRC will look at during the fall once Good Neighbor Day is over.

A lot of discussion amongst the Council came out of the meeting that Mr. Troy provided. He stated that the economy is affecting all of the industries.

### **Meet in the Street**

Chairman Clagett asked the Council for any feedback they had concerning Meet in the Street. The members that helped out stated that the Banner was visible and created awareness of what the HRC does. All of the feedback was positive and most of all scheduling and getting cooperation and accepting responsibilities made the event worthwhile. Sherry Burchett took pictures and thought that these pictures would be great to put on the website and overall this was a very good day.

### **Good Neighbor Day**

Good Neighbor Day was discussed and who would contact certain vendors. Chairman Clagett will send an email out to the Council listing the materials and fundraising. A question was asked concerning how the vendors were recognized and in the past the vendors were recognized by putting their names on the tee shirts that patrons received that attended Good Neighbor Day.

Tee shirts were discussed and Richard Longhway had an idea about using a coin as a token for the patrons. Entertainment was discussed and perhaps using local groups. Sherry Burchett knows of a group from Raleigh that could be used for entertainment. She will get a quote from them and let the Council know when they meet again.

Work Sessions were discussed. The Council will conduct a work session on June 15<sup>th</sup> and July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Police department.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Sherry Burchett talked about the project that she and Nicole Hedrick are working on. She is going to meet with Tri Area Ministries and see what they may need as far as the back pack buddies are concerned.

A motion was made by Allyson Rayfield and seconded by Chairman Clagett to elect Sherry Burchett as Vice Chairman of the Human Relation Council that was vacated by Andria Fields which carried unanimously.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Richard Longhway and seconded by Karen McVickers and by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Karen Clagett, Chairman

---

Tammy Moody, Staff Liaison