

**MEETING MINUTES FOR  
MICHIGAN CITY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

August 3, 2010  
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**Present:** Marty Corley  
JoAnn Engquist  
Nancy Gonzalez  
James Guerrucci  
Martin Hernández  
Judi Huber  
Hezzie Mitchell  
Faye Moore  
Mary Ellen Quinn  
Tyra Robinson-Walker  
Cory Soller

**Absent:** Elizabeth Pacheco-Hubertz

<b><u>Staff:</u></b>	Ta-Tanisha Clark	Executive Director
	Sammie Phillips	Assistant Director
	Larry Arness	Staff Attorney

**Others:** Andy Steele ALCO T.V. Cameraman

**ROLL CALL:**

Chairperson Quinn called the meeting to order and asked for the roll to be called. Assistant Director Phillips called the roll and it was noted for the record. All attendance is noted above.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chairperson Quinn asked for a motion of acceptance for the July meeting minutes. Commissioner Huber motioned to accept. Commissioner Robinson-Walker seconded the motion. The chairperson asked for a vote.

**Ayes: 11      Nays: 0      Abstained: 0      Absent: 1      Vacant: 0**  
**Motion accepted as submitted.**

**FINANCE REPORT:**

Commissioner Mitchell, Treasurer, referred all present to the report contained in their folders. One check was written to the News-Dispatch in the amount of \$108.45. He noted the ending balance was \$4,543.66 including interest earned.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

Director Clark gave an updated report for the department. She referred present to the report contained in their folders. She also gave a brief summarization on the ongoing construction projects for the city. The Michigan Blvd. project is NOT a city funded project. This is being handled by the state of Indiana; therefore, the city's EEO Department does not have any input on this project. The new Charles Westcott Park was approved by the city council. The Humanitarian of the Year Committee plans to meet on

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Wednesday, August 11th to review the nominations. Director Clark asked for three (3) HRC volunteers to sit on this committee along with three (3) from the News-Dispatch and one (1) from the Mayor's office. Commissioners Huber, Corley and Engquist volunteered. The dinner will be Friday, September 10th at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and students are \$12. She also put a copy of the dinner's booklet ad dimensions in their packets. Director Clark also reported she has reserved the location for next year's dinner at the M.C. Senior on September 16, 2011. The city has a new chief of police, former Assistant Chief has chosen Mark Swistek as the new chief.

On August 21st at Pullman Field Park a "Rib Cook Off" will be held. This event is being sponsored by the Mamie Sanders Scholarship Committee. On this date as well will be the "Back to School Rally" hosted by a number of community sponsors at Elston Middle School.

## **ATTORNEY REPORT:**

Attorney Arness gave a brief report on two cases the department has open against Filter Specialist. He recently met with the respondent's attorney to discuss the cases. He will keep the HRC updated on the progress as it becomes necessary.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS/EDUCATION COMMITTEE:**

#### ***Education Committee:***

*Commissioner Engquist reported the committee has not met recently but she is excited about the new MCAS Superintendent, Ms. Barbara Eason-Watkins. She also reminded everyone regarding the "Back to School" rally on the 21st of this month.*

#### ***Disability Task Force Committee:***

*Commissioner Guerrucci reported the committee plans to meet on August 18th at 3:00 pm in the East Conference room at City Hall. The meeting is open to the public and he encouraged anyone interested to join them. He noted next years Disability Awareness Brunch will be the second Monday in March 2011 at the Michigan City Senior Center. The mayor confirmed his attendance and Mr. Guerrucci is seeking ideals for the brunch. He is in need of vendors and ideals for transportation for local residents wanting to attend.*

### **ANNUAL DINNER:**

Commissioner Quinn reported Mr. Ed Kiss will still be the caterer's for the dinner at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts on September 10, 2010 even though the location changed this year.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The Education Committee plans to meet shortly to discuss the Anti-Bullying Grant. The committee will have a report at next months meeting.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Huber inquired should she not receive the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities scholarship, would the HRC sponsor two members to attend? A discussion was held regarding the scholarship and the costs of the event. Commissioner Guerrucci noted he plans on attending the event but does not plan on staying over night. He invited anyone interested in attending the event to drive down with him in his van. After the discussion Commissioner Moore motioned to have the HRC sponsor up to two members with all expenses paid associated with attending this event in November. Commissioner Corley seconded the motion: The Chairperson asked for a vote:

**Ayes: 11      Nays: 0      Abstained: 0      Absent: 1      Vacant: 0**  
**Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No comments were made

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Quinn asked for a motion of adjournment. Commissioner Hernandez made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mitchell seconded. The Chairperson asked for a vote:

**Ayes: 11      Nays: 0      Abstained: 0      Absent: 1      Vacant: 0**  
**Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

**NOTE: The Annual Dinner on 9/10/10 will take the place of the September Human Rights Commission meeting. Our next scheduled meeting will be October 5, 2010.**