

VILLAGE OF GLENCOE  
HUMAN RELATIONS FORUM

MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2011

6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Glencoe Human Relations Forum, held in the Village Hall Hagenah Conference Room, was called to order at 6:37 p.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011.

The following members were present:

Deborah Cogan, Chairperson  
Margot Flanagin  
Hilary Price  
Peggy Wagner-Kimble  
Keki Bhote  
Joel Heifitz  
Mike Volling, Ex-officio member

Scott Feldman, Glencoe Village President  
Irv Leavitt, Pioneer Press  
Don Van Arsdale, Glencoe Park District

The following members were absent:

Members Pam Louik and Patricia Cantor were absent.

Chairperson Cogan called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 16, 2011 MEETING

The minutes of the March 16, 2011 meeting were approved.  
Motion by Member Wagner, Second by Member Bhote.

3. DISCUSSION ON NEW MEMBERS

Glencoe Village President Scott Feldman advised that Rabbi Lowenstein from Temple Am Shalom had been appointed as a new member to the HRF. The Forum is still looking for additional new members. He asked that anyone else interested in becoming a member of the forum be directed to contact President Feldman.

4. DISCUSSION ON 2012 VILLAGE VEHICLE LICENSE

Glencoe Park District Executive Director Don Van Arsdale advised that the Park District would be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012. As such, he inquired on possibility of advertising their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on next year's Village Vehicle license. Members agreed it was a feat worth recognizing and will

use it as the theme for the 2012 vehicle license. Glencoe School children will enter a contest to design the new license as they have in past years. The Park District will also sell T-shirts, plant 100 trees, build a time capsule, enter a float in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, host 100 year old games to celebrate.

5. DISCUSSION ON GRAFFITI

Discussion was held on graffiti spray painted throughout the Village. Public Safety took reports of swastika type symbols spray painted on street signs and bus stops. There was discussion on whether or not the HRF should issue a statement condemning the acts. While all members found the acts disturbing, it was felt that issuing a statement may bring unwanted attention to the matter and therefore cause repeat acts. It was agreed that no statement would be issued at this time since as several weeks had passed with no graffiti; however, the HRF would reconsider if another act were to occur.

6. RESIDENT CONCERN OVER "GYPSY" COMMENT

A resident expressed concern over comments made by a Public Safety official in releasing information on day-time burglaries to the Pioneer Press that included the term "Gypsy". The resident was concerned both that the term was used and that the Pioneer Press had printed it. He wanted the HRF to discuss the matter and speak with the Pioneer Press about editing out such comments before going to print in the future. Reporter Irv Leavitt related that use of the term was common in law enforcement and that he understood the context in which it was used. Mr. Leavitt did not believe the comment was intended to offend anyone or discredit an entire race/class/culture of people. The HRF felt it was not appropriate to set policy for the media and decided it was not a matter for the HRF to act upon at this time.

7. HRF WEBSITE

The HRF is making progress on the website. Additional discussion will take place at a later meeting.

8. 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY ACTIVITIES

Member Heifitz is working on finalizing plans for a DJ. He is also making arrangement to have the "Glencoe's got talent" skits video recorded. Members will once again be recruiting participants to compete in the talent contest.

9. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM by Member Flanagin, second by member Price.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, June 15, 2011.

