

City of Pekin
Human Rights Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2013

- I. **Welcome and introductions** – Meeting opened at 7:34am; Present: Melinda Figge, Bill Fleming, Roger Goodson, Michele Moul, Danielle Owens, Gregg Ratliff and Becky Saban. Also Present: Pamela Anderson and Joe Wuellner.

- II. **Approval of agenda** – On a motion by Moul, second by Saban, the agenda was approved.

- III. **Approval of minutes** – On a motion by Moul, second by Saban, the minutes of the March 27, 2013 meeting were approved.

- IV. **Correspondence and feedback** - None

- V. **Old Business**
 - A. **Murals (Pekin High School)** – Ratliff reported he spoke with Scott Lange from the Union Mission. Their board met and discussed the mural, but did not yet approve it. Our committee discussed the project. We will ask the school to complete the final design before the end of the school year. We can then take that design and our plans for the mural(s) to the City Council as an update on our activities. We can then go back to the Union Mission and get their approval this summer so we are ready to go when school opens in the fall.

 - B. **HRC community awareness activity (Building Diversity Leaders in Our Community)** – The Pekin Daily Times donated the creative work on our poster. They ran one free ad last weekend and we'll have another one this weekend. The chamber put the flyer on their blog, linked to it on Facebook, and will include it in their newsletter that comes out tomorrow. Committee members will promote it to their networks. Fleming will send the committee a list of attendees from the November 2011 Valuing Diversity breakfast. He will also email all of them the flyer of our May breakfast. He will also send a press release/flyer to the media the week before the event.

 - C. **HRC future vision** – We reviewed the ideas we've generated so far.

Next meeting: May 22, 2013 – Building Diversity Leaders in Our Community / FCI Community Room

- a. Anderson will work on some kind of workshop/seminar for the committee and staff to develop a P.R. plan to deal with incidents.
- b. Figge will work with the Pekin Public Library on our idea for a “community read” and discussion on a book with diversity themes.
- c. Ratliff will work on the idea of an awards program to businesses and organizations, and the appropriate city/committee event to make those presentations.
- d. Moul would like to see us “brand” our murals, i.e., “Brush with Diversity” and use a consistent logo, like the thumb print. Figge noted there could be grant opportunities from the Illinois Arts Council.

D. Beads for Life event recap – Moul noted the event attracted about 25 people to the city council chambers. She thanked the city’s I/T department for setting up the Skype session. It was a very good event.

VI. New Business

- A. Stand Against Racism – update / April 26, 2013 – The event is all set, with the 5th graders from Franklin Primary School in Peoria participating. PCHS students will also be there. It will be part of Pekin Main Street’s “Create Cultivate Educate” series on the courthouse lawn.
- B. I Have A Dream – Figge noted that Alissa at the library will help us with our idea to record government, civic and community leaders reciting the “I Have A Dream Speech” and then editing them together. Figge will work on this in June so it will be ready by the 50th anniversary on August 28th.

VII. Other business to come before the committee – none.

- A. Committee members
- B. Committee advisory members
- C. City staff
- D. Public
- E. Press

IV. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:34am on a motion by Moul, second by Fleming.