

**Brooklyn Park Human Rights Commission**  
**March 19, 2009**  
**Minutes Approved**

Commissioners present: Terry Parks, Chair; John Granger, Vice-chair; Evelyn Staus, Secretary; Ellen Stekert, Jessica Ayub, Brent Metzler, Valarie Eubanks-Pettigrew.

Absent were Elizabeth Knight and Darlene Bell.

Also present: Denise Rene Wollenburg, Staff liaison, BP resident Hassanen Mohamed and Council liaison Crema.

Commissioner Parks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Commissioner Staus moved and Commissioner Stekert seconded approval of the agenda. Motion passed.

Commissioner Stekert moved and Commissioner Granger seconded approval of the minutes for the February 19, 2009 meeting. Motion passed.

Chairman Parks reported that arrangements have been made for Brooklyn Park HRC to host the League of MN Human Rights Commissions Board meeting on Saturday, November 21, 2009, in council chambers. The Volunteer Appreciation dinner is scheduled for Thursday, April 7. All Commissioners are encouraged to attend.

Staff Liaison Wollenburg reported on upcoming community events.

Council Liaison Crema discussed the issue of Blondie's Bar and Grill and the "disorderly house" ordinance. Staff Liaison Wollenburg said there will be a response from Mary Tan in the Sun Post to questions about Blondie's. A copy will be e-mailed to the Commissioners.

Staff Liaison Wollenburg shared a letter from State Senator Sandra Pappas along with a resolution from the City of Edina urging municipalities to put pressure on the Sudanese government to put an end to the genocide in Darfur by divesting from companies which do business with Sudan. Commissioner Staus moved and Commissioner Metzler seconded a motion to recommend that the Brooklyn Park City Council sign on to the resolution. The motion passed.

Strategic Plan: copies of brochures from Anoka HRC were shared. Because Commissioner Knight was absent, and she had created a mock-up of a new brochure, it was decided that the committee needs to meet outside of Commission meetings to decide on text changes. Staff Liaison Wollenburg said her interns can design the brochure after they are given the text.

The names of the new Commissioners, who will take office in April were announced. They are: returning Commissioner Ellen Stekert, and new Commissioners Hassanen Mohamed and Wynfred Russell.

April agenda discussion: whether to invite AAAC to present their mentoring program or have a work session to finish the brochure in time for Cinco de Mayo. It was decided to invite AAAC to come on June 25<sup>th</sup>, as we need to meet a week later to avoid conflict with the Tater Daze parade. We will invite BPPD Captain Jeff Ankerfelt to the May meeting to discuss progress on Bias/Hate Crime Response Plan.

The Commissioners will vote next month on whether to suspend meetings during July and August.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by Commissioner Staus, secretary