

Duluth Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2012

Present: Rebecca Domagala, Cruz Mendoza, Scott Yeazole, Sheryl Boman-Schneider, Scot Bol, Brian Thorbjørnsen, Em Westerlund, Michele Naar-Obed

Excused absence: Bob Kaner, Margie Nelson, Cynthia Strange

Un-excused absence: Allegra Henderson

Also present: Bob Grytdahl, Human Rights Officer

Scott called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes – *Cruz Mendoza made a motion to approved the January minutes with the following changes: Change #3 and #7 to read Duluth Unfair Campaign. Take out YWCA. Motion seconded and passed.*
2. Speaker – Gary Anderson, local organizer from MN United for All Families was invited by Commission to speak about the organizing work to defeat the marriage amendment on the ballot in November. The polls indicate at this time amendment would pass. They are organizing to reach 400,000 people. They need volunteers to make phone calls. Their web site is www.mnunited.org and email is gary@mnunited.org.
3. Unfair Campaign – There were a number of speakers to give feedback on the Unfair Campaign, which this Commission is a partner. Speakers Katie Mcrae, Phil Pierson and Leslie Bruns-Fralich spoke against the campaign. Phil read a letter from Troy Smith, National Guard member who was also against the campaign.

George Ellsworth and Derin Gilbert spoke in favor of the campaign.

Cruz Mendoza read a letter from an ISD 709 student about a racist incident.

Henry Banks presented OAP legislative agenda for this year for us to vote on to support. Cruz requested that we wait a month to vote on the agenda now. *Scot Bol made a motion to approve OAP's legislative agenda and seconded by Shery Boman-Schneider. Motion passed with Cruz Mendoza voting against the motion.*

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl Boman-Schneider
Co-secretary

SBS:jjm