

St. Mary's County Human Relations Commission
St. Mary's County Governmental Center
November 1, 2006
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Bernadette Lewis, Norma Pipkin, Jim Hanley, Sanjay Apte, and Barbara Hendricks (left early).

Excused: Mac McClintock, Rose Ann Everett, Joe Bush, and Betty Quinn

Absent: Joyce Dyson, Pam Oravec, and Maureen Johnson

The meeting was convened by Cynthia Brown at 5:20pm. Members present reviewed the October minutes and found no objections, except two spelling errors. Minutes could not be accepted as there wasn't a quorum present.

Cynthia provided a financial report. The HRC budget has a current balance of \$2000.

Cynthia, Jim and Sanjay reported on the Study Circles facilitator training that was attended on October 19 and October 23 with members of St. Mary's County Public Schools. The HRC and St. Mary's College had been discussing over the past year the possibility of having a community wide Study Circles project to discuss race relations. The Board of Education is also interested in hosting this type of Study Circles in their schools as one measure to address the achievement gap. The training was to prepare potential facilitators and consider next steps to getting the projects underway.

Possible dates for the HRC breakfast were discussed. April 14th or 21st were suggested because these dates would not conflict with the Easter holiday. Cynthia agreed to poll members via e-mail to confirm the date. She also shared information about a potential speaker, Warren Love, owner and founder of Cake Love, a natural food bakery located in Washington, D.C. One of Cynthia's staff members, Kelsey Bush, heard Mr. Love speak at a conference and was very impressed. Cynthia saw Mr. Love on the Oprah Winfrey show discussing how one seeks their life's work and follows their passion. Mr. Love had been a lawyer before deciding to open his own bakery. After the conference, Love told Bush, he'd consider coming to St. Mary's as a speaker. Cynthia requested HRC members to consider a theme for this year's event and determine if Love is a speaker they would like to pursue to either present on finding one's calling in life and overcoming obstacles or holistic health/eating healthfully. She acknowledged that while Mr. Love may be an interesting speaker with an inspiring story to tell, HRC members may not find him to be appropriate for the type of function they host. Cynthia agreed to provide Mr. Love's website to members for further research.

At last month's meeting, Chairperson McClintock suggested the HRC sponsor a family for Christmas. The Division of Community Services (301 475-4200; ext: 1851) coordinates the Christmas Caring Program each year where businesses and organizations

donate toys, clothing and food to families in need. Members present asked Cynthia to conduct an e-mail poll to see if members would like to participate.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10

Minutes submitting by Cynthia Brown