

**Sullivan County Human Rights Commission
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
Thursday, January 8, 2015**

Meeting called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Present: Eric, Peggy, Judy, Kathie, Gabriel (Not a quorum)

- I. Approval of Last Month's Minutes – no quorum
- II. Executive Director's Report
 - A. January 15, 2015 B.O.C.E.S Open House 5:00 – 7:00 at the John Street School – Eric will be going
- III. Executive Committee Report
 - A. Executive Committee Meeting – Jan. 8, 2015: Judy has heard back from Everyday Democracy. They will send us information that we can present to our Legislature to request funding. Judy will share info with everyone via email.
 - B. 1) Gabriel and Katherine were going to begin organizing a Fair Hearing Forum, but Katherine has not been reachable. Maybe we don't have accurate contact info for her? Exec committee discussed inviting someone from Fair Hearing in Albany to help with a Forum.

2) Eric and Gabriel have been receiving many complaints about Family Services. We discussed making a list of all the specific kinds of complaints (i.e. how many cases closed w/o notification), and so on, and then meet with Randy Parker, cc our report to all legislators. Eric, Gabriel and Kathie will meet to put list together.
- IV. Issues Committee Report
 - A. One public accommodations complaint: a patient at Crystal Run was told that she would not be provided w/ services, but was not told why. Eric investigated and was told the patient had submitted fraudulent document. She denied this, so Eric will follow up.
 - B. A father of two Sullivan West kids complained of violation of Dignity Act, as well as infractions in transporting his kids.
 - C. Social Services complaint: case was closed without cause. Eric got it re-opened, but then it was closed again.
 - D. Many complaints of sexual harassment from employees of Family Services. Two are being investigated now by the State.

- V. Outreach Committee Report:
 - A. The program celebrating International Human Rights Day at Tri-Valley went very well. Peggy is interested in facilitating in the future. She also knows someone who is very interested in facilitating, too.
 - B. Eric will contact all the school districts in S.C. to find out who the Diversity officer is in each one.
 - C. Eileen Weil Scholarship Brunch: Other possible honorees
Wes Gillingham, Aileen Gunther, Josephine Finn, Jamie Samerol
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.