



Somerville Human Rights Commission  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
July 14th, 2009

Somerville Human Rights Commission  
Monthly Public Meeting  
Somerville Super Stop & Shop Community Room

### **Meeting Notes**

#### **Commissioners in Attendance**

Barry Rafkind, Chair  
Cesar Urrunaga  
Ashraf Hegazy  
John Robinson

#### **Also in Attendance**

Sonja Darai, Director of Somerville Commission

#### Recruitment + Outreach

- July 18th, Art Beat Festival in the 7 Hills Park at Davis Square
  - Setup is 9am-10am, breakdown is 5:30pm-6pm
  - The commissions under the health dept will have a single table at booth #134
  - Sonja asked when commissioners would be available to be there
    - Ashraf committed to 12-2pm
    - Cesar, Barry, and John will get back to Sonja about their availability
  - Sonja will bring materials such as pamphlets and bookmarks
  - Like last year, Sonja will be selling bottled water as a fund-raiser for the commissions
  - The city can provide:
    - the same tent that was used last year (it is heavy, so Sonja will ask the DPW for helpers to move it and set it up)
    - a van to transport the tent
- Aug 1st Cookout
  - Will be held at the Growing Center, 12-2pm
  - \$125 in gift certificates have been raised from local stores:
    - \$25 from Mount Vernon Restaurant

- \$50 from Market Basket
    - \$50 from Stop & Shop
  - More food donations (food, not money) will be solicited from local restaurants
  - Publicity
    - John has flyer in Davis Square and at the Somerville fireworks event
    - We will publicize this at Art Beat
    - Sonja will try to get the city to publicize this cookout as well
  - Rain location: Sonja will look into alternative locations near the Growing Center
  - Cesar said he will be out of town for this event
- Aug 4th National Night Out, "a unique crime/drug prevention event" [[www.nationaltownwatch.org/nno](http://www.nationaltownwatch.org/nno)]
  - 5pm-8:30pm in Foss Park
  - Organized by SCAP (Somerville Cares About Prevention)
  - Cesar said he will be out of town for this event
- Other Recruitment Activities
  - Sonja
    - continues to make presentations about the commissions (Women's, Human Rights, Multi-Cultural Affairs, LGBT) to community groups
    - suggested that commissioners submit lists to her of recommended prospects for recruitment
    - suggested that the HRC develop a recruitment plan including the process to follow from the point of first invitation through final appointment to the commission
  - Barry suggested we ask community groups to nominate candidates

#### Misc

- No new complaints have been filed with the HRC
- Next HRC meeting will be Aug 11th