



Somerville Human Rights Commission
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Oct 13, 2009

Here are my notes from our Oct 13th HRC meeting:

Commissioners in Attendance

Barry Rafkind, HRC Chair
John Robinson
Ashraf Hegazy

Commissioners with an Excused Absence

Cesar Urrunaga

Other Attendees

Sonja Darai, Acting Director of Somerville Commissions
Thomas Gilbert, advocate and former member of the Somerville Disabilities Commission

MLK Day Committee

- Barry proposed creating this committee. JR volunteered to join. Regina has already expressed interest in participating. The meeting schedule is TBD.
- If others are interested in joining the committee, please contact me (Barry).

Recruitment

- John suggests recruiting on the Tufts campus during large events, such as activity fairs
- Tom suggests publicizing commission meetings at T stops

Introduction of new Tufts student assistants in the Office of Somerville Commissions

- (postponed since the students were in class instead)
- See attached Director's Report for details

Misc

- Ashraf asked about HRC commissioner term renewals. Sonja will look into this.
- Sonja suggested that the HRC work with the BoA on funding issues. She will discuss this with Paulette first. Ashraf will talk to his ward Alderman.

- Tom suggests partnering with HRC commissions from neighboring communities to share best practices

Recent Complaints and On-going Investigations

- See attached Director's Report for details

Director's Activity Report

- See attached PDF