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Subject: Human Relations Commission Minutes 05/09/2011

To: SimsburyCT\_HumanRels

Cc:

Minutes for Human Relations Commission Monday, May 9, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 in the Senior Center at Eno Memorial Hall.

Present were HRC members Eva Hausman and Susan Ersinghaus, Director of Social Services for the Town of Simsbury Mickey Lecours-Beck, liaison to Simsbury Board of Selectman Lisa Heavner; and the Director of the Senior Center, Kathleen Marschall.

Members realized that the published Agenda for the meeting had an erroneous date concerning the appropriate Minutes to be approved. The correct Minutes from the Special Meeting held on November 20, 2010 were printed, read and approved, pending publication of the cancellation of the December 12, 2011, and a change of the October meeting from the 17th to October 24th, 2011. Members asked that the changed dates be corrected in the record.

The Commission was then joined by members of representatives from the Muslim-American Peace Group. Introductions were made and over the course of the hour, the group shared their experiences as Muslim-Americans in Simsbury and Connecticut. They identified encounters with ignorance and discrimination as well as support and discussed ways the Commission might facilitate the continued education and acceptance within the community. The Commission and liaisons all appreciated the honest dialogue and confirmed a desire to continue communicating and thinking of opportunities to facilitate a wider knowledge and acceptance of Muslim-Americans.

The meeting was adjoined at 6:20, but members enjoyed refreshments and shared their thanks together.

Respectfully submitted Susan Ersinghaus Secretary