

From: SimsburyCT Postings May 13, 2009 10:30:20 AM
Subject: Human Relations Commission Minutes 05/05/2009
To: SimsburyCT_HumanRels
Cc:

Simsbury Human Relation Commission Meeting May 5, 2009

Present were: Eva Hausman, Susan Ersinghaus and Mickey Lecours-Beck

The meeting was called to order at 5:05

The minutes from the last meeting on November 25, 2008 were read and approved.

Ms. Lecours-Beck then updated the commission on her success participating in a series of town events at which she successfully distributed materials ordered since the group last met. She had consulted with the Youth Advisory Board and showed them the materials: the two brochures procured from the Teaching Tolerance program – Ten Ways to Fight Hate and Speak Up! – identified with the Commission's stamp and motto (Simsbury Human Relations Commission - Make a difference in Simsbury: Look past your differences and find common ground in Simsbury.); pencils, bracelets and key chains with the saying “All Shapes All Sizes All Colors All Special” and “Diversity Colors Our World – Celebrate Diversity”. She had received some feedback that the rainbow colored bracelet would not be as well received by the High School students as the green one, so distributed the smaller, rainbow bracelets at the events at the Junior High School. She related to the Commission how successfully they had been received at:

- the Feb. 11th “Celebrate Diversity” table that was set up in the High School
- the speech given by Deacon Arthur Miller to celebrate Black History Month at Henry James Middle School
- both the 7th grade Diversity Workshop and the 8th grade Holocaust Survivor seminars held April 1st at the Junior High
- the Anti-Defamation League's NAMES PROGRAM held for sophomores at the High School

The commission set the date of the next meeting for Tuesday June 16, 2009 at which they will discuss ways to impact the community in the coming year, and whether there might be a role for the Human Relations Commission in the food distribution programs of Simsbury.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10.

Susan Ersinghaus,
Secretary