Windsor Human Relations Commission

Minutes of Meeting
January 10, 2007

Present: Max Kuziak; Joyce Armstrong; Evelyn Smith; Leonard Swade; Bill Warner-Prouty; Frank Stewart; Richard Knickerbocker; Richard Armstrong and Diane McDougald.

Guest: Jan Stephens, resident

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:10 at the Town Hall, Ludlow Room.

Approval of minutes: The minutes for the Windsor Human Relations Commission (WHRC) meeting of December 13, 2006 were accepted.

Harassment in Windsor: Jan Stephens discussed the situation with a recently settled Muslim family from Russia here in Windsor. The wife received harassing phone calls saying "Go back to where you came from, or we will do the same thing to you as happened on 9/11." The husband feels that the caller was a co-worker. The family has formal "Refugee Status' in Windsor and is very eager to mix in as a regular American family, and keep their Muslim faith. They did not want the police called in because they had had bad experiences with police in Russia, where they were also considered refugees. This type of harassment was the same thing that went on in Russia. Upon discussion with the police, they indicated that for the police to react a formal report must be filed. Jan Stephens was given a Human Relations Commission report for this harassment case. The WHRC will give the completed form to the Windsor Police Department.

Staff Report: The annual Martin Luther King, JR. celebration service in Windsor will be held on Monday January 15, 2007 starting at 6:00p.m. in the Town Hall sponsored by Archer Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church. Mark Winzler recently resigned his position in Windsor to become a Superintendent of Schools in a neighboring town. The Windsor Conversations on Race will have a kick off meeting on February 7, 2007. One book One Windsor this year is *The Colored Sisters Came to Town.*

Old Business: Joyce Armstrong distributed a talking points handout for the Community Inclusion project that occurred on April 18, 2005. The Windsor Human Relations Commission reworked, voted, accepted and recommended a resolution that "wishes to advise the Superintendent of Schools and the School Board that they have the full and considered support of the Human Relations Commission in past and future decisions to hold Windsor High School's graduation ceremony at The First Cathedral in Bloomfield, CT."

New Business: Mr. Chris McAuliffe will discuss the Windsor achievement gap at the next meeting.

The next Windsor Human Relations Commission meeting will be on Wednesday February 14, 2007 at the Town Hall, Ludlow Room, at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment was called at 8:10p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Armstrong
Secretary