



Vancouver Island Human Rights Committee

June 21, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Minutes prepared by
VIHRC Recording Secretary Laura Gracie

Released Unofficially: June 26, 2011

Adopted Officially: September 8, 2011

Attendance

Boardroom: Michael Doerfler, Eric Bouffard, Laura Gracie, Cindy Little, Robert Mitchell, Virginia Vaillancourt & PSAC Rep: Dave Jackson.

Teleconference: None.

Translators: Mary Warner & Mary Butterfield.

Regrets: Tracy Shudo, Eve d'Anjou, Paul Jones, Glen Hendry & Ryan Dowell.

Meeting – Call to Order

VIHRC Chairperson Michael Doerfler called this meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Roundtable Introduction

Eric Bouffard from UNDE Local 21008 attended for first time. Welcome Eric Bouffard! Rest of the committee continued with their introductions.

Old Business for Review

Adoption of April 14, 2011 VIHRC Meeting Minutes:

A review of previous meeting minutes took place at this time.

Virginia Vaillancourt has requested a friendly amendment to the previous minutes to change the wording of the Women Committee to the correct wording of Victoria Regional Women Committee.

Motion: Robert Mitchell made the motion to accept the previous minutes.

Seconded: Virginia Vaillancourt.

Carried: Unanimously.

Start time of VIHRC Meetings:

Last meeting, Paul Jones had made a suggestion to adjust the meeting times from 6:30 p.m. to an earlier time to facilitate member participation.

For various reasons, the 6:30 p.m. time was chosen as most members felt that this was a better time because it was noted that earlier time made it 'too rushed' for too many members and the meetings weren't as productive.

Discussion ensued then it was decided that it may be more appropriate for the new executive (2011-2012) to make a decision regarding this issue. This issue will be held in abeyance until the new executive is sworn in during September 8th AGM.

Motion: Michael Doerfler made the motion to move the start time of meetings as an agenda item for VIHRC's 2nd AGM on Sept 8th.

Seconded: Robert Mitchell.

Carried: Unanimously.

New Business

VIHRC Treasurer's Report:

Opening balance effective May 1st is \$1944.00 in the chequing account and \$50.34 in the equity account.

There was no revenue and the only expense was for \$100.00 for the PSACBC Regional Convention to cover the VIHRC's delegate convention registration fee.

Closing balance is \$1844.00 in the chequing account and \$50.34 in the equity account.

It was noted in the last meeting that there was a difference of \$150.00 for the allocation of 2011 Human Rights Committee funds from the PSACBC. Michael Doerfler made an inquiry regarding the difference and it was then discovered that the allocation was short and therefore a further allocation of \$150.00 was deposited into the account on June 2, 2011.

The total of 2011 HRC allocation amount is now \$1450.00

Motion: Laura Gracie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Seconded: Cindy Little.

Carried: Unanimously.

BC Regional Triennial Convention Feedback:

Michael Doerfler relayed to the committee how pleased he was to attend this convention and what a great opportunity it was to network with so many people.

The resolution submitted by the VIHRC was passed unanimously on the floor.

The resolution was:

Be it resolved that PSAC work with the CLC and like-minded partners to lobby the Federal Government to increase Canadian Human Rights Commission funding and ensure regional offices are re-opened; and

Be it further resolved; that PSAC work with the CLC, community and cultural groups to lobby and call upon the Provincial and Federal Governments to make Human Rights a priority through education, monitoring, enforcement and proper funding and infrastructure.

Bravo!

Michael Doerfler became the Alternate rep for the BC Regional Members with Disabilities' equity group. Tracy Shudo is the main rep of this equity group.

Michael Doerfler also advised that he had not heard anything as an alternate and was concerned that if he was called in to replace Tracy Shudo that he would not be informed in the issues that would be discussed.

Virginia Vaillancourt advised that there probably hasn't been very much information for this soon after the convention. Michael Doerfler was advised to contact Tracy Shudo if he did not hear anything soon.

Patrick Bragg had created a facebook page for the group and it was then suggested that perhaps the Alternates could be invited into the facebook site as well so they could be kept up to date.

Victoria Pride Parade:

It will be held on Sunday July 10, 2011.

This will be the fourth year that PSAC and VIHRC will be taking part in this parade.

Michael Doerfler will not be able to make it for this year and is asking other members to take part in the parade on behalf of VIHRC.

This will be our first year with our new banner.

Robert Mitchell asked if there was a registration fee to be paid. It was advised that Paul Jones was looking into this and more information would follow.

This year we will not be having a float yet we will be having a table set up. It was hoped that we would have some swag items for this event, but that it seems to be unlikely as there is not much time from now to July 10th

Michael Doerfler mentioned about some of things we need to do to get ready for the parade. We need to:

- Find a rod or pole for banner.
- Someone to bring banner to the parade.
- VIHRC swag items (Probably too late for this year)
- Request for other PSAC Committees to come out and support i.e. Victoria Regional Women Committee, Health and Safety Committee etc.
- Get in touch with other labour organizations.
- Bring co-workers, friends and families.

Motion: Michael Doerfler made a motion to donate \$100.00 for the Pride activities this year.

Seconded: Eric Bouffard.

Carried: Unanimously.

VIHRC's 2nd Annual General Meeting:

This AGM will be held on Thursday September 8, 2011

Drop in to dine and socialize from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with food and drinks available.

Business portion of the evening will be conducted at 6:30 p.m.

Once the business is done then resume with dine and social function.

Michael Doerfler's two minor suggestions were made to:

- 1) Have smaller portions of food platters, and
- 2) To change the title of Chairperson to President and Co-Chairperson to Vice-President.

The atmosphere is to remain the same as last year's popular festival atmosphere.

Business portion will be the final act of 2010-2011 VIHRC in adopting the previous meeting minutes and voting on any proposed change prior to new 2011-2012 VIHRC taking over.

The elections will then follow for new 2011-2012 Caucus.

Once the elections are done then VIHRC's new president (2011-2012) will bring in a motion to review and adopt 2012 meeting dates. The issue about start time of meetings will follow.

VIHRC President will then close the meeting portion. Dine and Social will then continue till 8:00 p.m.

It was suggested that perhaps we could invite Jason Rodham from the Friends of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights to appear at our AGM.

Motion: Robert Mitchell made a motion that we invite Jason Rodham to our AGM.

Seconded: Eric Bouffard.

Carried: Unanimously.

[Continued Discussion]

It was suggested that we also invite our new BC REVP, Bob Jackson, to our AGM as well. Michael Doerfler stated that he would like to have guest speakers this year.

It was also suggested that a sub-committee be formed for the purpose of co-ordinating food and beverages for this night.

Motion: Robert Mitchell made to form a sub-committee for the purpose of planning and co-ordinating the AGM events.

Seconded: Virginia Vaillancourt

Carried: Unanimously.

[Continued Discussion]

Robert Mitchell, Michael Doerfler and Laura Gracie have volunteered for this sub-committee.

Michael Doerfler also suggested that power point presentations will probably not be used for this meeting due to the room layout.

Dave Jackson mentioned that the boardroom can be accommodated up to 60 people when also factoring in the total space of other rooms.

The sub-committee will work together over the summer. The sub-committee will also inform the committee of any important decision that might needed to be discussed via email.

VIHRC's Swag Items:

Robert Mitchell has requested a cost listing from Cavan Advertising which is an union company and the one that the PSAC uses to order their swag items.

There is a requirement for placing minimum orders usually at a range of 200 to 500 counts.

Here is the costing for a few items that we are possibly looking at:

- Pens at \$0.58 with minimum order of 500
- Lanyards at \$2.75 with minimum order of 200
- Water bottles at \$2.75 with minimum order of 200
- Coffee mugs at \$2.75 with minimum order of 200
- Travel mugs at \$3.50 to \$3.75 with minimum order of 200.

Virginia Vaillancourt noted that Mohr Good Ideas is another place that could be looked at for purchasing these items but believes there is a minimum order requirement as well.

Virginia Vaillancourt remarked that while the company itself is not unionized yet it does use unionized companies for delivering purposes.

For possible T-shirts, Virginia Vaillancourt also mentioned the company called Dogs Ears on Burnside and stated that she believes the cost of the shirts are under \$18.00 and they also do ball caps.

It was mentioned that perhaps sticky note pads could be used for the swag items as well.

Robert Mitchell will be doing more research into this.

Robert Mitchell also mentioned that he would like to continue looking into making up Calendars as well.

Victoria Regional Women Committee:

Virginia Vaillancourt talked about that the candle light vigil event will be held on December 6, 2011 this year. The event will support the Victoria Women's Transition House and the Victoria Sexual Assault Agency.

Requests have been made for the following items: toys for kids, clothing for all ages, crayons, books, diaries, toiletry items and spa care packages.

Virginia Vaillancourt hopes to have the poster out within the next two weeks.

The Victoria Regional Women Committee would like to ask everyone to invite their families, friends and co-workers.

These organizations are supported by unionized members at the Empress Hotel as well as the Canadian Auto Workers Union.

The wish list from both of the above groups is usually put out onto their websites in November.

Meeting 'Wrap-Up' Discussions

No Further Issues.

Meeting – Call to Adjourn

VIHRC Chairperson Michael Doerfler called to adjourn this meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Next Meeting Notification

VIHRC'S 2ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Thursday September 8, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
at the PSAC Office in Admirals Walk