



Monthly RVAC Meeting

Date: ~~18~~ June, 18 2015

11 Holland Avenue, Ottawa

Co-Chairs: Carl Laguerre and Zelma Buckley

Minutes prepared by: Elizabeth Pecana (Secretary)

Present:

Zelma Buckley
Behiye Cinkilic
Paulette Barker
Elizabeth Pecana
Paul Abi-Mansour
Joanne Robinson
Debbie Thomas
Jane Veneranda

Regrets:

Carl Laguerre

Guest

Marie Françoise Bertrand

Resource Person

Nairra Tariq

Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Zelma Buckley at 6:18:04 PM p.m.

1 - Adoption of the Agenda

A motion to accept the Agenda was made by Sister Joanne Robinson and seconded by Sister Behiye Cinkilic. **All were in favour.**

2 - Minutes of the May 2015 Meeting

Motion to accept the minutes as recorded was made by Sister Paulette Barker and seconded by Sister Behiye. **All were in favour. Motion carried.**

3 - Business arising from May 2015 Minutes

- Sister Nairra will provide an update of Brother Ji Sheng's case. There was a general agreement that all the details of the case were not clear. Brother JiSheng had left some documents for reference. Sister Paulette advised Sister Nairra to keep his documents on file in the event we need to revisit the case.
- Brother Paul expressed his frustration that though many people have come through our doors seeking help, RVAC has not been able to provide appropriate support. He said that RVAC finances training and supports community donations but there does not seem to be any financial support for **individuals amended to read racially visible members** fighting discrimination. Sister Elizabeth said that there should be a line item in the budget for this support. Sister Nairra will clarify the PSAC position on this matter. Sister Paulette suggested a fund raiser toward raising money for this cause. Again, Sister Nairra will clarify the PSAC position on this recommendation. Once clarification is received and feasibility is established, discussion regarding the management of finances will follow.
- Sister Behiye commented that our outreach to the community via letters and donation is taking a long time. She pointed out that when a pledge is promised, timelines should be respected. She felt that the process in place could be improved and looked for suggestions to the committee.

Reasons for delay:

- Distance is an issue (Co-Chairs work in different departments and both not located close to PSAC)
- Variables such as vacation, convention
- Confusion re: protocol
- Lack of a coordinator to do the legwork

Sister Elizabeth suggested that since Sister Behiye is VP Communications that she take on the role of following up on such outreach decisions as approved by RVAC. However, it was pointed out since RVAC had approved the pledge, it was outside the scope of the committee to appoint a coordinator and that the decision rested with the executive.

- There was a discussion on why the RVAC resolutions to hold a Regional Conference before the PSAC National Human Rights Conference and the survey for proportionate equity representation at NCR Conferences were denied. This resulted in a better understanding of the process and some proposals were made to improve our chances at future AGMs.

Two Members-At-Large were elected at the NCR AGM – both members of RVAC – Sister Behiye Cinkilic and Sister Sandra DiGnagbo. Congratulations to both.

- Sister Zelma reported that the Forum for Union Activists was cancelled due to poor registration.

4 – JAMDAY – 8 August 8, 2015

It was noted that only one more RVAC meeting remained before JAMDAY. RVAC and MDAC will be sharing a 20x20 tent. A recommendation was made to use this day to raise funds.

Motion

RVAC will hold a raffle on JAMDAY 2015 at \$1 per ticket. Proceeds from the raffle will go towards assistance to racially visible minorities and their issues.

Moved By: Sister Paulette Barker

Seconded By: Sister Elizabeth Pecana

Discussion

- How will funds be managed?
- Do we need a licence to raise funds?
- Will financial management of these funds be under PSAC control or RVAC control?

Status of Motion: Declared *pending* awaiting response from the Regional Office.

All were in favour except Brother Paul Abi-Mansour who abstained.

There was some discussion regarding giveaway items for the raffle.

Attendees

Paulette –shift

Carl

Marie Francoise

Jane Veneranda - shift

Elizabeth - shift

Behiye – shift

Wheel of Fortune

PSAC has a Wheel of Fortune. One spins the wheel. Depending on the subject where the wheel comes to rest, a question is put to the player. Questions are generally based on politics and the environment. Not ideal for children. A suggestion was made to use this wheel as a raffle. A small charge to spin and token gifts to be given on every spin.

5 - Community Outreach

Many festivals are held during the summer - the Lebanese Festival, the Haitian festival, Carivibe Beach festival, Caribana Toronto to name a few. Sister Debbie Thomas suggested to hold a volleyball game. Sister Joanne Robinson will be attending the Police Diversity Day.

There was a recommendation to have volunteers attend these festivals and give out RVAC promotional items.

6 - Screening of Selma – July 24, 2015 (Friday)

Location: Dundonald Park, Ottawa

Time: 9 pm

The Young Workers Committee is holding this event. The response has been overwhelming. RVAC will be contributing to this event with their presence (table) and assistance. Volunteers are needed to distribute food packages to the attendees.

7 – Island Grill Caribbean

There was a general assent that the menu had to be changed. Sister Zelma brought a takeout menu from Island Grill. They have agreed to invoice PSAC. A welcome change.

8 – Criterion Pictures

Sister Behiye provided the information required to screen a movie. A one-time showing of a movie would cost \$250.00 plus taxes.

An annual licence to show movies would cost \$550.00 plus taxes. For first time customers, payment is made by credit card. The location must be provided in advance to Criterion Pictures. Certain restrictions apply when advertising the movie and charging admission/collecting donations at the door.

PSAC to be approached to discuss feasibility of buying an annual license. For more information, please find attached the email from Criterion Pictures to Sister Behiye.

With no further items to discuss, a Motion to adjourn was made by Sister Zelma and seconded by Sister Elizabeth. **Motion carried at 8:40 p.m.**

Next meeting: ~~16~~ July 16, 2015 at 5:45 p.m.