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**Belmont Human Rights Commission Meeting
Belmont Town Hall
July 18, 2011**

Meeting minutes

Present: Carl Brauer, Fran Yuan (Chair)
Members of the Public: Charlotte Millman, John Vercellone
BHS students: Nisa Gurung, Pallavi Khare, Lina Nurhusein, David Sullivan
Liaison: Peter Hoerr

Meeting convened 7:05 pm

1. BHS student introduced themselves and their interest in being involved in the HRC. Charlotte was referred to the HRC by Nava at Beech Street Center to work on programs that the HRC might sponsor there. She has experience with intergenerational programs while she was program manager at Brookline Senior Center.
2. A quorum was not present; minutes were voted on; no report on phone line.
3. Some ideas from past brainstorming were discussed. Nava has requested support in broadening appreciation of diversity by those who attend Beech Street Center. Ideas were generated about how students could work with seniors on a photo or media project where they would interview one another. A product from these interactions would be shown publicly either as a photo/essay exhibit or video project. The product could be shown at various venues and at Town Day. Also a food event could be held on Tuesday between 4:30 and 7 when the Center is open later; donations could be requested from neighborhood restaurant. Some presentation about food and culture could take place. These two projects could be planned simultaneously and carried out over the year.

Fran agreed to set up a follow-up meeting with Nava and invite the students and Charlotte to attend so that these ideas could be discussed with her.

4. Capt. Hoerr reported that he was investigating an incident that took place at the high school in June in which a student used a derogatory slur towards another student. He has spoken to the parents but not the student yet. Could constitute a hate crime but as yet undetermined.
5. BHS students were asked to email Fran with their interest in the HRC. They could either say they were interested in a possible term as an HRC member or possibly as an Associate Member, which would not be an official appointment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Yuan