

**MEETING OF THE MONROE COUNTY
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Call to Order:

Members present were: Byron Bangert, Doris Parlette, Kathleen Sideli, and Paul White. Staff present: Margie Rice, County Attorney.

2. The Commission approved the minutes from the March 28, 2018 meeting.

3. New Business:

A. Introductions from Commission members and guests were made. Four members of the public attended. Those members included Marc Haggerty and Tania Karnofsky, who are both volunteer Board members with New Leaf New Life, a non-profit which provides services in the Monroe County Correctional Center. Frank Miller, a program volunteer with New Leaf New Life, was also present. All three New Leaf New Life volunteers were present in their individual capacities and not formally representing New Leaf New Life. Local attorney David Colman, who has an interest in civil rights and is a self-described concerned citizen, was also present.

A frank and honest conversation took place between Commission members and the guests, with each volunteer sharing with the Commission their particular areas of interest and experience volunteering with New Leaf New Life in efforts to support people incarcerated in the Correctional Center. Marc and Tania shared the history of New Leaf New Life, since they have been involved since its inception. Tania's efforts to help those incarcerated by getting glasses, birth certificates, writing letters to possible treatment facilities, and other types of help was discussed. Marc expressed his opinion that the work Tania does is her avocation.

Discussion was held about the change made by the Sheriff to replace New Leaf New Life's residential program with one by Centerstone. The current and ongoing volunteer services provided by New Leaf New Life were highlighted by Frank Miller. Frank shared his insight about the differences between the New Leaf New Life program and the one being run by Centerstone and the level of interest from the inmates to each program.

Mr. Colman shared his perspective from when he would visit clients in the Correctional Center. He stressed the importance of community knowledge of and shedding light on the Correctional Center. Overcrowding in the jail was briefly discussed.

B. Participating in the Fourth of July Program with the City of Bloomington Human Rights Commission was discussed. Margie Rice is to request money from the Commissioners' Boards and Commissions line to pay for bracelets and to work with Barbara McKinney.

4. The meeting was adjourned.