

THE CRC NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCILS

Promoting harmony & respect among a diverse citizenry of our state



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Rock Hill CRC Holds First Summer Retreat at Winthrop Lake

The Rock Hill Community Relations Council held its First Annual Summer Retreat on Sunday, July 30, 2017, from 2-5 p.m. at The Shack overlooking the Winthrop Lake on the campus of Winthrop University. Shelby Patterson, Chair of the Council, said the purpose of the retreat was to evaluate the CRC's purpose while fostering new bonds among members, to understand the CRC's purpose and how it intersects with the S.C. Human Affairs Commission, and to discuss training for present and new members to develop skills to meet the CRC's purpose and to be effective in carrying out its goals.

Agenda items included icebreakers on what drew members to the council, what the members hoped to contribute to the community, background information that members felt was important to share with other members, and each member's experience and training which are relevant to the council's purpose. There was a discussion of goals, history of committees which had combined to form the present council (i.e., Martin Luther King Jr., No Room for Racism, and Human Relations), future training opportunities, website updates and how to address citizens' concerns during CRC meetings.



Saundra Ligon, Senior Consultant with the S.C. Human Affairs Commission, shared with the group information about the next state conference to be held in Myrtle Beach in early 2018, along with updates on the training modules from consultant Graeme Coetzer, Ph.D., Associate Professor at the College of Charleston.

Member, Gigi Anderson, stated that the retreat was a great opportunity for all members to get to know one another on a personal level and to clarify concerns many members had about their role in the CRC. Staff Liaison, Dayna Johnston, received heartfelt thanks for her hard work with the council over the years. Johnston's last day with the City of Rock Hill was July 31, 2017. Most all of the membership (15 members are appointed by Rock Hill's City Council) attended this successful retreat, which will likely become an annual event. Everyone left with a feeling of camaraderie and a better understanding of each other, the goals and mission of the Rock Hill CRC.

