St. Mary's County Human Relations Commission January 2, 2008 Minutes

<u>Attendance</u>: Melvin McClintock, Rose Ann Everett, Joyce Dyson, Barbara Henderson, Jim Hanley, and Andree Wells

Excused: Joseph Bush and Theo Cramer

Staff Liaison: Cynthia Brown

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson McClintock at 5:15 p.m. December minutes were approved as presented. New member, Andree Wells was introduced.

Finance Statement: Cynthia Brown reported a balance of \$2750 in the commission budget.

<u>Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast</u>: Members were encouraged to arrive early. Barbara Hendricks agreed to serve as CO-MC.

<u>Annual Awards Breakfast:</u> No confirmation on a speaker yet. Cynthia has placed an ad in the Enterprise requesting nominations for honorees from the public.

Study Circles: There is a meeting scheduled in late January to discuss next steps.

<u>Big Read Program</u>: Jim and Mac agreed to serve as facilitators for the community-wide book discussion groups hosted by the St. Mary's Library. The topic: *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines.

<u>Job Fair:</u> HRC will collaborate with the NAACP and the United Committee on Afro-American Contributions (UCAC) to provide a job fair that focuses on a variety of career fields, not exclusively high tech. Summer employment and internships may also be included. Jim, Barbara and Mac volunteered to work on this.

<u>Strategic Planning Session</u>: Members are considering Feb 23 to meet to discuss specific goals for the next two to three years, in light of the growing community in St. Mary's County. Mac suggested inviting former members for insight and suggestions.

<u>Announcements</u>: Cynthia announced the St. Mary's Commission for Women is currently accepting nominations from the community for honorees at their annual Women's History Month Banquet on March 27 at the Forrest Center.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm