

**Minutes
Human Relations Commission
April 12, 2011**

**Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011,
6:00 P.M. at City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 East Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.**

(MEMBERS) Present:

Florence Boyle
Belinda Chiu
Kathy Dietz
Armando Espinoza
Frank Morales
Jay Scherotter
Thaddeus Swiecki
Josephine Vega
Dr. Patricia Young

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Joseph Mann
Kade Twist

Diversity Staff Present:

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Administrator
Dee Hodson, Diversity Office Assistant

Guests Present:

none

Meeting convened at 6:00 P.M.

Commissioner Young called the meeting to order and invited members of the public to address the Commission.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Minutes

February 8, 2011, HRC Commission Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Espinoza to ACCEPT minutes.

Second by Commissioner Boyle.

Minutes APPROVED.

February 8, 2011, Teen Diversity Dialogue Subcommittee Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Scherotter to ACCEPT minutes.

Second by Commissioner Boyle.

Minutes APPROVED.

Agenda Item 3 – MLK Diversity Awards Feedback – Florence Boyle

Commissioner Boyle began by explaining that although a lot of positive feedback had been received regarding the MLK Brunch, there was always room for improvement. Commissioner Boyle is interested in viewing the DVD of the MLK Brunch to address possible improvements. Commissioner Young said the DVD viewing would be better served at a MLK Subcommittee meeting and should include invitations to all HRC Commissioners. Commissioner Boyle stated she would like to get ideas from everyone, not only those who volunteer for the subcommittee.

Commissioner Vega asked what was done with the money collected from the new admission fees. Commissioner Boyle replied the money was used to offset the cost of the event. It was agreed that the charge for 2011 was nominal and could increase for the 2012 MLK Brunch.

Agenda Item 4 – Teen Diversity Dialogue Subcommittee Update – Kathy Dietz

Commissioner Dietz reported that the Teen Diversity Dialogue program was coming together nicely. Commissioner Dietz reviewed the subcommittee's progress including the approval of applications, flyers and posters. The applications will be sent to the Diversity office for the subcommittee's final selection process. Commissioner Dietz stated that currently no additional subcommittee meetings have been scheduled but she will advise the commissioners of future meetings. Commissioner Chiu pointed out that the selection process meeting would take place soon after August 19th when the applications are due.

Commissioner Scherotter asked if the previously discussed pilot program was off the table. Commissioner Young said that is a question that should go back to the subcommittee.

Commissioner Dietz said Commissioner Espinoza will be looking for facilitators and would appreciate any Commissioners' suggestions. Commissioner Espinoza will present the training outline in draft form to the commissioners at the next meeting for their input and approval. Commissioner Dietz asked when the training would take place. Commissioner Espinoza replied training should occur the month before the program begins on August 30th and be completed by the middle of August.

Agenda Item 5 – Immigration Update – Armando Espinoza

Commissioner Espinoza began by sharing the Arizona Republic's front page article on April 12, 2011 titled "Block on SB1070 Upheld". The article explains the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals' ruling which prevents key parts of the law from going into effect. Commissioner Espinoza expressed his frustration by the news that Governor Brewer might take the matter to the Supreme Court.

Commissioner Espinoza continued with a discussion involving the Utah Compact. As a member of the Mesa Association of Hispanic Citizens, Commissioner Espinoza explained the group had drafted a letter including their reasons for supporting the Utah Compact. This letter was at the request of the Mesa Human Relation Commission with the intent to present it to the Mesa City Council. It was brought up that perhaps the Tempe Human Relation Commission could do a similar thing for the Tempe City Council's consideration. Commissioner Young said she would be interested in Mesa's HRC's response and/or what action would be taken with the letter. Commissioner Espinoza said that three other groups have contacted the Mesa Association of Hispanic Citizens for their support.

Commissioner Espinoza finished by inviting the Commissioners to a special VIP Grand Opening Celebration of the Alston House on the evening of Friday April 15th. The Alston House, named the Center for Peace and Justice, was built in the 1920's and was the home and office of Dr. Lucius Alston, the first African-American doctor to practice in Mesa. Commissioner Young thanked Commissioner Espinoza for his leadership and information.

Agenda Item 6 – Diversity Department Update – Rosa Inchausti

A. Inclusion Training Update

Rosa explained that the Diversity Office compiled a synopsis of the Inclusion Training evaluations. The synopsis will be reviewed at the next meeting when copies of that information will be handed out.

B. Diversity Dialogues Update

Rosa reported that the recent Diversity Dialogue program was very successful. The Diversity Dialogue participants and facilitators were recognized at the Tempe City Council meeting on April 7, 2011. The next Diversity Dialogues will take place in the fall of 2011.

Commissioner Boyle wondered how HRC can get the information discussed at these meetings (i.e. Utah Compact, Alston House...) out to the community, especially students. Commissioner Young asked that be added to next meeting's agenda.

Motion: Commissioner Boyle moved to adjourn the meeting

Second: Commissioner Espinoza

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Prepared by: Dee Hodson

Reviewed by: Rosa Inchausti