



Minutes Human Relations Commission October 11, 2011

Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 East Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Florence Boyle
Don Calender
Belinda Chiu
Kathy Dietz
Josephine Vega
Joseph Mann
Frank Morales
Jay Scherotter
Thaddeus Swiecki

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Hannah Auckland
Armando Espinoza
Dr. Patricia Young

Diversity Staff Present:

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Administrator
Dee Hodson, Diversity Office Assistant

Guests Present:

None

Meeting convened at 6:10 P.M.

Commissioner Morales 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

September 13, 2011, HRC Commission Minutes
Motion made by Commissioner Calender to ACCEPT minutes.
Second by Commissioner Boyle.
Minutes APPROVED.

Agenda Item 3 – Utah Compact – Armando Espinoza

In lieu of Commissioner Espinoza's absence, Commissioner Morales asked for Agenda Item 3 - Utah Compact, to be tabled to the next meeting. Commissioner Morales then asked for comments. Commissioner Scherotter asked if Commissioner Espinoza planned on scheduling a meeting with the commissioners that volunteered at the last meeting to research a possible Tempe Compact. The consensus was that Commissioner Espinoza had been traveling for business but will be contacting interested commissioners in the near future. Commissioner Dietz pointed out there is a time restraint if a compact is to be ready for the Unity Walk in February. Rosa reported that we have not yet received the Scottsdale wording for their compact although it has been requested. Commissioner Dietz added the next Regional HRC will be hosted by Scottsdale.

Agenda Item 4 – MLK Diversity Awards Update – Rosa Inchausti

Rosa asked the Commissioners to please send her any MLK speaker recommendations. Rosa said due to the centennial year, a historical speaker might be a good idea. Bruce Babbitt was governor of Arizona when adding a Martin Luther King holiday was first requested. Consequently, Rosa plans on looking into Mr. Babbitt being the MLK speaker. Commissioner Morales suggested Ernesto Calderon.

Commissioner Boyle asked how youth might be incorporated into the MLK brunch. Commissioner Chiu reported she asked the Teen Diversity Dialogue program participants how they would like to be involved in the MLK Brunch. The teens replied they were more interested in community service projects and working together rather than being on the stage or being recognized. Commissioner Dietz suggested the Teen Diversity Dialogue participants be invited to attend the MLK Brunch free of charge, seated together at one table and recognized as the inaugural Teen Diversity Dialogue group. Commissioner Chiu thought they would love that suggestion. Commissioner Vega agreed that explaining the inaugural program and introducing the Teen Diversity Dialogue participants at the MLK Brunch would suffice for this year.

Commissioner Scherotter asked if there was a budget for the MLK speaker. Rosa reported that recent speakers have agreed to a reduced honorarium of \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00.

Agenda Item 5 – Teen Diversity Dialogue Re-Cap – Kathy Dietz & Belinda Chiu

Commissioner Dietz began by thanking Commissioner Chiu and her co-facilitator Leah Abriani for a wonderful job. Commissioner Dietz's observation found the teens to be happy with the program and respectful to each other. Commissioner Chiu and her co-facilitator, found the topics to be well thought out and said the topics progressed in a natural and logical flow.

Commissioner Scherotter asked what surprised Commissioner Chiu or stood out most about the Teen Diversity Dialogue program. Commissioner Chiu said she was surprised how well the entire group got along with each other. They all liked each other, continue to be friends on Facebook and didn't form cliques. One of the Teen Diversity Dialogues discussions included how Tempe high schools differ in their divisiveness while other Tempe schools are more inclusive.

Commissioner Dietz reported on ideas to keep students involved in Teen Diversity Dialogues.

- Have the teens carry the Diversity Dialogue banner at next year's Unity Walk.
- Recognize the inaugural Teen Diversity Dialogue participants at the MLK Brunch.
- Use past Teen Diversity Dialogue participants as ambassadors at their High Schools.
- Include charter and private high schools in the next recruitment.
- Use the internet with the student's assistance.
- Make the next program deadline the day before the program starts.

The next Teen Diversity Dialogue program will be run concurrently with the Spring Adult Diversity Dialogue program beginning January 25, 2011 through March 7, 2011. Commissioner Morales inquired about training additional facilitators. Commissioner Dietz explained that Commissioner Espinoza had volunteered to do another facilitator training. Rosa asked about utilizing teen facilitators. Commissioner Dietz said they had discussed including teen facilitators.

Rosa acknowledged the strong parent involvement that was evident at the last meeting's potluck. The consensus was that many parents strongly encouraged their children's involvement because diverse issues were important to them and they wanted their children to see why it should be important to them as well. Commissioner Dietz saw the need to reach the parents to encourage their teens' involvement.

Agenda Item 6 – Immigration Update – Armando Espinoza

Once again, in lieu of Commissioner Espinoza's absence, Commissioner Morales asked for Agenda Item 6 – Immigration Update, to be tabled to the next meeting. Commissioner Morales then asked if Commissioners had any information they would like to share. No comments were offered.

Agenda Item 7 – Diversity Department Update – Rosa Inchausti

A. Teen Diversity Dialogue Council Recognition – October 20, 2011, 7:30 p.m.

Rosa invited the commissioners to attend the Council meeting next Thursday at which Teen Diversity Dialogue participants will be recognized. The recognition is the first thing on the Council's agenda.

B. Regional HRC Meeting hosted by Scottsdale – November 14th, 2011, 6:00 p.m. (Dinner at 5:30 p.m.)

The agenda will be sent out once it is received. Please RSVP to the Diversity Office so we may give Scottsdale a head count.

C. LDPII: Boards & Commissions Orientation – October 26, 2011, 6-9 p.m. at the Tempe Library in the Tempe Learning Center

Rosa informed the commissioners that the Human Relations Commission currently has one opening.

D. Public Meeting regarding options for Tempe Town Lake western dam replacement – October 17, 2011, 6 p.m. at the Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway

Rosa reported she will be forwarding the Council Summit Results to the Commissioners for their review.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Prepared by: Dee Hodson

Reviewed by: Rosa Inchausti

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Administrator