



**Minutes
Human Relations Commission
November 8, 2011**

Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 East Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Hannah Auckland
Belinda Chiu
Don Calender
Kathy Dietz
Armando Espinoza
Joseph Mann
Frank Morales
Thaddeus Swiecki

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Florence Boyle
Jay Scherotter
Josephine Vega
Dr. Patricia Young

Diversity Staff Present:

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Administrator
Dee Hodson, Diversity Office Assistant

Guests Present:

Kate Hanley, Tempe Community Council
Caterina Mena, Tempe Community Council

Meeting convened at 6:00 P.M.

Commissioner Espinoza 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

October 11, 2011, HRC Commission Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Calender to ACCEPT minutes.

Second by Commissioner Mann.

Minutes APPROVED.

Agenda Item 3 – Diversity/Unity Grant Proposed Changes – Caterina Mena

Kate Hanley and Caterina Mena from the Tempe Community Council (TCC) presented proposed changes to the upcoming Diversity Unity Grant Awards process. Caterina explained that TCC has funding in place for a total of \$16,000. The maximum amount allowed per grant is \$4,000. The proposed changes are as follows:

- A. Current awarded funding may not be used to pay off expenses on events held in previous years.
- B. Interested in expanding the possible grant reviewers to include Tempe's Gay Straight Alliance (GSA).
- C. Interested in expanding grant solicitations to include Tempe charter schools, private schools and community organizations targeting youth.

Caterina reported three applications were received last year with each being awarded \$4,000 at the MLK Brunch in January 2011. Commissioners discussed that expanding the grants to additional schools and organizations would hopefully increase the number of applications received. Kate commented that with additional applications the number of total awards could be increased with smaller individual amounts. Caterina reported a majority of the grants have been used for "Anytown" camps with a Diversity Week included in last year's winning programs.

Commissioner Dietz inquired about obtaining TCC's contact list for use to advertise the next Teen Diversity Dialogue program. Caterina will forward that information to the Diversity Office when the contact information has been finalized.

Commissioners did not voice any concerns over the proposed changes. Caterina will attend the January Human Relations Commission meeting to share the award recommendations and receive the Commission's approval.

Agenda Item 4 – Utah Compact – Armando Espinoza

Commissioner Espinoza requested this item be tabled until the December meeting. Commissioner Espinoza will be contacting Commissioners Scherotter, Auckland and Dietz who have expressed interest in researching a possible Tempe Compact. Commissioner Dietz is hopeful regional compacts will be discussed and additional information obtained at next week's Regional HRC Meeting.

Agenda Item 5 – MLK Diversity Awards Update – Rosa Inchausti

Rosa reported the MLK Diversity Award nomination forms are currently being completed. The nomination forms will be distributed to the commissioners when they are finished. Rosa requested the Commissioner's assistance in recruiting additional business nominations in the hopes of an increase in the business category this year.

Ginny Belousek is in the process of determining if Bruce Babbitt is available to be the 2012 MLK Keynote Speaker. Rosa asked for additional speaker recommendations from the Commissioners keeping in mind the desire to stay with a historical theme due to the State's Centennial. Commissioner Dietz suggested Congressman Raul Grijalva and Commissioner Espinoza suggested Dr. Louis Olivas.

Agenda Item 6 – Immigration Education Update – Armando Espinoza

Commissioner Espinoza brought two recent Arizona Republic articles involving immigration issues. The first article dated October 30, 2011 titled; “Alabama immigration battle recalls civil-rights past” discussed some of the impact of the increased Hispanic population in Alabama. The second article dated October 23, 2011 titled; “GOP alienating Hispanic voters” discussed the hard line some high level Republicans are taking regarding immigration solutions. Commissioner Espinoza also shared an editorial written by Linda Valdez dated October 22, 2011 titled; “Immigration reform: Knocking down political fences” making the case that economics may be the meeting ground for immigration reform.

Agenda Item 7 – Diversity Department Update – Rosa Inchausti

A. Regional HRC Meeting hosted by Scottsdale – November 14th, 2011, 6:00 p.m.

(Dinner at 5:30 p.m.) RSVPs were collected for the next Regional HRC Meeting held next week.

Rosa added that Commissioners will be called upon to decide the MLK Award recipients. Rosa confirmed a table will be reserved for the Teen Diversity Dialogue participants at the MLK Brunch.

The next meeting will be December 13, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Prepared by: Dee Hodson

Reviewed by: Rosa Inchausti

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Administrator