0102-36-02

AGENDA ITEM 23

DATE 03-20-08

Tempe

Minutes
Human Relations Commission
January 8th, 2008

Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on TUESDAY, January 8th, 2008 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 East Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:
Zach Berning
Florence Boyle
Colleen Byron
Arlene Chin
Joseph Mann
Gail Paredes-Ewen
Irina Pohaota
Fentress Truxon
Janis Webb

(MEMBERS) Absent:
Linda Ritland
Muhammed Zubair
Safali Patel-Evans

City Staff Present:
Rosa Inchausti
Brandy Naleski

Guests Present:
Michael Greene, Financial Services
Jerry Hart, Financial Services
Bob Lofgren, Citizen
Sue Lofgren, Citizen
Jayson Matthews, Tempe Community Council
Charlie Meyer, City Manager
Caterina Mena, Tempe Community Council

Meeting convened at 6:08 P.M.

Chair Colleen Byron called the meeting to order and invited members of the public to address the Commission.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances
The new city manager, Charlie Meyer attended the meeting and introduced himself to the commission and offered his support of the commission and their efforts in the community. When asked by Commissioner Truxon what is the most interesting question he has been asked so far, Charlie responded that as an outsider coming into a close-knit organization, he is being given the opportunity to ask questions and evaluate who we are as an organization. Commissioner Chin thanked Charlie for attending and offered any support that commission can give during this transition.

Agenda Item 2 –Consideration of Minutes
Strategic Oversight Committee - November 7th, 2007

MOTION: Commissioner Florence Boyle made a motion to accept minutes.
SECOND: Commissioner Joseph Mann
DECISION: Motion passed unanimously.

December 11th, 2007

MOTION: Commissioner Fentress Truxon made a motion to accept minutes.
SECOND: Commissioner Arlene Chin
DECISION: Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 3 – Diversity Park Suggestion
Citizen Bob Lofgren came before the commission asking for their support in an idea to bring a Diversity Park to the City of Tempe. Bob is a long time city resident and served eight years on the Parks & Recreation Board for the city. The Tempe Butte is in need of some attention and revitalization. Bob shared some great ideas with the commission including renaming the park and partnering with the Historical Preservation Commission. There would be a need for fundraising in order to accomplish this task. Commissioner Florence Boyle stated that she was very impressed with the idea and shared that there is a similar diversity park in Boston, MA. All commissioners were in agreement that this is a great idea. Chair Colleen Byron suggested that the commission ask Mark Richwine, Parks & Rec Manager for the City of Tempe to come and share with them the process and determine viability of the project.

Agenda Item 4 – Unity Grants
Jayson Matthews from Tempe Community Council presented this year's Unity Grant winners to the commission. Jayson introduced Caterina Mena who will be taking his place in handling the Unity Grants in the future. Jayson provided a brief history of the Unity Grants for new commissioners. Each year $25,000 is available to local high schools to be used for diversity events. Tempe High was unable to complete their program last year due to staff turnover and a focus on their 100th Anniversary Celebration. Tempe High would like to use their 2007 grant money for programming this year. The commission was in agreement to approve that request. Jayson shared that Tempe High is partnering with McClintock this year and after review the grant proposal he feels confident that this task can be accomplished. Members of the commission and the Tempe Community Council Board review the three grant proposals and the money was awarded to Corona, Marcos de Niza and McClintock/Tempe. The Awards will be distributed at the MLK Diversity Awards Brunch on January 21st, 2008.

MOTION: Commissioner Janis Webb made a motion to award the monies as listed.
SECOND: Commissioner Gail Paredes-Ewen
DECISION: Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 – Procurement Race Neutral Diversity Supplier Program
Jerry Hart and Michael Greene from Financial Services presented the final report for the FY06/07. Michael Greene passed around handouts of graphs showing HUB(Historically Underutilized Businesses) expenditures vs. total expenditures. First Michael shared the city expenditures for the past fiscal year. The city had $8 million in HUB expenditures, 3.2% of the city's total expenditures. Michael explained the three ways money is spent, through Purchase orders, Direct Pay Orders and Procurement Card expense.

Almost all HUB monies came through Purchase orders. Michael and his office is working to clean up the data and find more accurate ways to track HUB dollars for the coming fiscal year. A comparison with other cities shows that only two other cities have a similar program, Phoenix and Glendale. Michael also presented a plan going forward for improving the program. This included 1) Continuing to take part in HUB supplier out reach efforts, 2) Improve Department intranet site on HUB supplier awareness to encourage employee use of HUB suppliers, and 3) Improve data gathering techniques. Commissioner Berning asked for clarification that the Direct Pay and Procurement expenses do not go through the same process as the Purchase orders so HUB expenses can't be tracked the same way. Michael Greene confirmed that is correct. Commissioner Truxon added to contact Ron Williams of Grand Canyon Minority Supplier Development Council in mind as well. Staff Rosa Inchausti thanked Jerry Hart and Michael Greene for compiling these numbers and presenting to the commission.

Agenda Item 6 – Letter from Dr. Joel Martin

Commissioners had the opportunity to review the letter from Dr. Joel Martin regarding the Fall Diversity Dialogues Session. Commissioner Truxon stated that he was overall impressed with the program and planned on attending again in the future.

MOTION: Commissioner Fentress Truxon made a motion to accept letter and forward to Mayor and Council.
SECOND: Commissioner Joseph Mann
DECISION: Motion passed unanimously

Agenda Item 7 – Rainbow Legends

Staff Rosa Inchausti shared with the commission the group "Rainbow Legends", the authors of the book "Dragonfly Stories". The book is a "chicken soup for the soul" for the LGBT community. The city's GSA is looking at opportunities for partner with them in the future. 40% of all the proceeds from the book sales goes back into the community.

Agenda Item 8 – HRC Strategic Plan Update

Chair Colleen Byron requested an update from the following subcommittees:

A. **Subcommittee for Development of Emerging Issues Report:** No report.
   1. **GLBT Issue** No report.
   2. **Hate Crimes Follow Up** – Looking to bring in a guest speaker in February for update.
B. **Subcommittee for Community Network and Outreach:** Commissioner Gail Paredes-Ewen stated that it is time to meet again and will be scheduling a meeting.
C. **Subcommittee on Strategic Oversight:** No report
D. **Supplier Diversity Committee Report:** No report

Agenda Item 9– Diversity Office Update

Staff Rosa Inchausti shared an update on the Diversity Office:

A. **Police Department Update** – There was only one qualified internal candidate so the position is now being opened externally per the city's policy. A member of the commission will be invited to sit on the interview panel.
B. **Martin Luther King Event:** This year's brunch is scheduled for January 21st at The Buttes at 9:30am. Commissioner Truxon voiced concern about charging the public to attend a MLK event.

Chair Byron encouraged Commissioner Truxon to form a subcommittee to explore sponsorship possibilities for future events. Commissioner Boyle added that although it would be great to have free events, the reality is that events cost money to host, the possibility of sponsorship dollars is worth looking into. There are tables established at the event for individuals that are unable to pay but would like to attend the event. The commission decided to further evaluate this issue at the MLK wrap-up discussion at the February meeting.

C. **Diversity Awards:** Commissioner Paredes-Ewen shared that the diversity award winners have been decided. There are 4 community groups, 4 education groups, 3 youths and 1 adult winner. There were no nominations for either business or diversity supplier categories
D. **Diversity Dialogues Spring Session:** The next Diversity Dialogues Session will be starting on January 22nd for seven consecutive weeks. Applications are currently being accepted and are available on the website.
E. **Diversity Steering Committee:** The Diversity Steering Committee will be meeting with the new City Manager, Charlie Meyer on January 15th, 2008.
F. **Unity Walk Update:** Empty Bowls moved their venue from the Tempe Beach Park to the Library. The Unity Walk is scheduled for February 23rd, a planning meeting is scheduled for January 10th, 2008 and more information will be available after that.

Agenda Item 10 -Current Events Announcements

Commissioner Truxon shared that there will be a free Unity Day event on January 24th at the Board of Supervisors Auditorium. Parking is available at 5th / Madison.

The commission's next meeting will be February 12th, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Prepared by: Brandy Naleski

Reviewed by: Rosa Inchausti

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Manager