Tempe

Minutes
Human Relations Commission
July 8th, 2008

Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on TUESDAY, July 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
Joseph Mann
Gail Paredes-Ewen
Linda Ritland
Fentress Truxon
Patricia Young

(MEMBERS) Absent:
Arlene Chin
Safali Patel-Evans
Irina Pohaota
Janis Webb
Muhammed Zubair

City Staff Present:
Ginny Belousek
Brandy Naleski

Guests Present:
James Burns, Tempe Historical Museum
Charles Cobb, Tempe Police Department
Jayson Matthews, Tempe Community Council
Caterina Mena, Tempe Community Council
Jan O'Malley, Corona del Sol High School

Meeting convened at 6:15 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
None

Agenda Item 2 –Consideration of Minutes
June 5th, 2008 Diversity Awards Subcommittee

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

June 10th, 2008 HRC Meeting

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

Agenda Item 3 – Unity Grant Presentations (continued from June 10th meeting)
Jan O'Malley from Corona del Sol High School presented on "Aztec Town" which is tailored after the "Anytown" program. Jan shared that Corona followed the same format they have had for the past 10 years. They had two awareness days, one in October and the other in February and the 4 day retreat in November. Approximately 100 youth participated in both awareness days. Students from Desert Vista High School also joined with them and participated in the 4 day retreat. Jan also shared that looking forward to next year when the entire freshman class will participate in the awareness day which will be approximately 550 students.

Commissioner Truxon suggested offering an incentive to get more students to complete the survey and offered the suggestion of asking the participating youth why they thought the drop out rates are high among African American and Latino students.

Caterina Mena from Tempe Community Council shared that the grant applications will go out in October/ November. The group discussed inviting HRC members to as many events as feasible.

Agenda Item 4 – All of Us: Revealing GLBT History in the Valley of the Sun
James Burns, with the Tempe Historical Museum, shared with the commission a collaborative project titled- All of Us: Revealing LGBT history in the Valley of the Sun. The Museum has partnered with 1n10 and playwright Laurie Brooks. The purpose is to capture, preserve and present the undocumented experiences, stories and contributions of the LGBT community. Youth from 1n10 will conduct the oral histories and the Museum will serve as the repository for all the information. They will also be utilizing archival scrapbooks and messaging blogs through the 1n10 website to gather information. Some of the stories will be written into screenplays and performed by the QSpeak theatre group. James also shared that the museum is undergoing a major renovation and the GLBT project will have a permanent place in the new exhibit.

Agenda Item 5 – Community Forum Idea
In the absence of Chief Ryff and Srgt. Scott Smith, Charles Cobb, Community Affairs Specialist stepped in to share with the commission that unfortunately at this time this project has been placed on hold. Mr. Cobbs is focusing on getting out into the community and getting to know people. Mr.Cobb solicited help from the commission to help him identify individuals within the community that he should meet.

Commissioner Linda Ritland suggested the Kiwanis Club of Tempe; they hold a lunch meeting on Thursdays. She will pass on Mr. Cobbs' information to them.

Agenda 6- 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** – None
   2. **Hate Crimes Follow Up** – None
B. **Subcommittee for Community Network and Outreach:** none
C. **Subcommittee on Strategic Oversight:** Commissioner Paredes-Ewen reported that a subcommittee meeting date will be scheduled.
D. **Supplier Diversity Committee Report:** Update provided under Agenda 7.

Agenda Item 7– Diversity Department Update

Staff Ginny Belousek shared an update on the Diversity Department:

1. **Diversity Supplier Update** – Ginny Belousek, Rosa Inchausti and Wendy Springborn-Pittman have created a packet for the engineering contracts with steps to run through the entire process. Copies of the packets were shared with the commission. Commissioner Berning stated that this packet makes the steps easy to follow and also which department is responsible for each step. Commissioner Truxon asked if there is a similar process for the general procurement. Ginny responded no, they have a separate process to follow. Also shared recently, Rosa, Wendy and Michael Greene attended a Joint Alliance Networking function that was a joint effort of ULBC, AMCA and Grand Canyon Minority Supplier Development Council.
2. **Mentoring Program** – Applications are being accepted for the City of Tempe Mentoring Program. Ginny has been busy attending several city staff meetings each day promoting the program. The program has been extended to 9 months and will run September through May. Austin Vickers will be facilitating the orientation. The deadline to apply is August 1st.
3. **Diversity Newsletter** – The first Diversity Newsletter is at the printers and will be distributed in the next week or so. Ginny thanked Brandy Naleski for her hard work and bringing this vision to reality and for all of the contributing writers.
4. **Recruitment Outreach Committee** – University of Oregon was doing online research and found the Diversity website. They are using our Recruitment Outreach Committee as an example in their best practices report.
5. **Gay/Straight Alliance** – James Burns and Jay Taylor are the new co-chairs on the alliance group. James shared that they hope to build upon what the past chair has done.
6. **Diversity Steering Committee** – The committee is working on finalizing the revision of the city-wide strategic plan. In addition, the committee is still looking at childcare issues for the employees and a subcommittee will be formed to work on this issue in the coming year.

Agenda Item 8 -Current Events Announcements

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Prepared by: Brandy Naleski

Reviewed by: Rosa Inchausti

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Manager