



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

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

(MEMBERS) Present:

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

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Joseph Mann

Diversity Staff Present:

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Administrator
Dee Hodson, Diversity Office Assistant

Guests Present:

None

Meeting convened at 6:04 P.M.

Commissioner Young called the meeting to order. Commissioner Young continued by welcoming and introducing the newly appointed Commissioners Hannah Auckland and Don Calender. Commissioner Young then invited members of the public to address the Commission.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Minutes

April 12, 2011, HRC Commission Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Scherotter to ACCEPT minutes.

Second by Commissioner Morales.

Minutes APPROVED.

May 10, 2011, HRC Commission Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Espinoza to ACCEPT minutes.

Second by Commissioner Boyle.

Minutes APPROVED.

April 12, 2011, Teen Diversity Dialogue Subcommittee Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Scherotter to ACCEPT minutes.

Second by Commissioner Vega.

Minutes APPROVED.

Agenda Item 3 – Utah Compact – Patricia Young

Commissioner Young began by asking the commissioners if the Tempe Human Relations Commission should pursue their own compact similar to the Utah Compact. It was confirmed that Mesa's current compact is very comparable to the Utah Compact. Commissioner Young pointed out that the Human Relations Commission is an advisory commission only and wondered if there was a need for a compact to originate from the commission. Commissioner Scherotter asked if there had been any requests for the commission to create a Tempe Compact. There are no current requests that anyone is aware of.

Commissioner Morales said the current SB1070 is a shadow of its original design and it might stay that way. Commissioner Dietz said SB1070 was the result of a prevalent Arizona attitude and that the commission should create a Tempe Compact to show that Tempe has a different attitude. Commissioner Espinoza agreed and added if the commission waits to see if SB1070 is found to be constitutional, it will be too late. Commissioner Morales wondered what good a compact would do if SB1070 becomes law. Commissioner Espinoza explained a Tempe Compact would reflect a different view and could be a preemptive strike if bills similar to SB1070 spread to other states. Commissioner Dietz said it was a moral obligation of the Human Relations Commission to address a Tempe Compact. Commissioner Swiecki agreed. Commissioner Dietz suggested forming a subcommittee to research creating Tempe Compact. Commissioner Auckland is in favor of exploring a Tempe Compact adding that diversity is what attracted her to the Tempe area. Commissioner Calender asked if the goal of a Tempe Compact would be for the compact to become a resolution? Commissioner Scherotter would be interested in creating a compact but suggests it be explored in a balanced way with input from those outside of the Human Relations Commission. Commissioner Scherotter suggested the Human Relations Commission receive support or sponsorship from the Council to move forward.

Motion: Commissioner Young moved to create a subcommittee to explore creating a Tempe Compact

Second: Commissioner Dietz

Motion Unanimously Approved

Commissioner Young asked who might be willing to Chair the Compact Subcommittee. It was decided commissioners would come to the next meeting with chair nominations.

Agenda Item 4 – MLK Diversity Awards Feedback – Florence Boyle

Commissioner Boyle explained she would like to get commissioners together outside of a Human Relations Commission meeting to review the past MLK Brunch DVD. The idea is to get suggestions to improve next year's MLK Brunch. Commissioner Young suggested continuing the co-facilitation of the program and additional participation when choosing the award recipients. The current MLK Subcommittee includes Commissioners Boyle, Chiu, Young, Morales, Scherotter and Vega.

Commissioner Morales said the flow of the program was halted when photographing award recipients. He was not sure how that could be avoided but the picture process added 20 or 30 minutes to the program length. Commissioner Boyle said that was exactly the kind of issues they needed to discuss and improve upon for next year. It was decided that Commissioner Boyle and Rosa will suggest viewing dates via e-mail. Commissioner Calender asked if the program could be viewed individually. Rosa explained that it was on the Diversity web site. Commissioner Young suggested more could be accomplished if the group got together, fast forwarded some of the sections and immediately discussed suggested improvements. Commissioners Scherotter, Morales, Young, Calender, Dietz, Auckland and Chiu are all interested in viewing the DVD if time constraints allow. Rosa confirmed that Ginny would attend the meeting to view the DVD.

Agenda Item 5 – Teen Diversity Dialogue Subcommittee Update – Kathy Dietz and Armando Espinoza

Commissioner Dietz provided a synopsis of the Teen Diversity Dialogue program for Commissioner Calender and Commissioner Auckland. Commissioner Dietz reported that one teen application and one facilitator application have been received so far. The subcommittee feels they are on track considering students are still on summer vacation. Past MLK award winner, Jennifer Rauhouse, will be advertising the Teen Diversity Dialogue program on her high school website.

Commissioner Calender asked what the local high school's thoughts are about Teen Diversity Dialogue and whether or not they have any similar programs. Commissioner Dietz replied that the high schools have been very supportive and do not currently conduct any competing programs. The program is open to all high schools including charter, private and public schools.

A. Teen Diversity Dialogue's Training Update

Commissioner Espinoza conducted a facilitator training session with many of the commissioners before this evening's Human Relations Commission meeting. The training was very positively received. Commissioner Espinoza sees this program as a great opportunity for all students. Commissioner Young asked anyone interested in facilitating to please contact Commissioner Espinoza.

Agenda Item 6 – Immigration Update – Armando Espinoza

Commissioner Espinoza did not have any current events to report. Commissioner Espinoza will be attending The National Council of La Raza's (NCLR) National Conference next month and hopes to hear President Obama speak. NCLR eagerly anticipates President Obama referencing his campaign promise that immigration reform would be passed in his first year of office.

Agenda Item 7 – HRC Dissemination of Meeting Information – Florence Boyle

Commissioner Boyle explained the Human Relations Commission's desire to better disseminate and share the valuable information discussed at Human Relations Commission meetings and asked for ideas from the commissioners. Commissioner Dietz suggested a survey sent to all Tempe citizens through the neighborhood office. Rosa reported on a meeting Commissioner Boyle attended with Commissioners from the Commission on Disability Concerns and a City Graphic Designer, Martha Garner. The meeting discussed the City of Tempe's new web site that will be going live in October. Martha suggested the Commissions create a calendar of events they would like advertised throughout the year. Those events and programs would then be advertised via social media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter. This would communicate that the Human Relations Commission exists, what the commission is doing and invite community to programs like Teen Diversity Dialogue. Rosa continued that once the commissioners decide what should be included, the calendar would be created by the Diversity Office. Ideas included advertising the Human Relations Commission's meetings and possibly highlighting commissioner's backgrounds.

Commissioner Young said there are two different agendas being discussed, the first being publicizing existing programs and the second being finding people who want to participate in Human Relations Commission programs. Commissioner Boyle asked about the parameters regarding connecting students with the Commissioners. Rosa explained that the Diversity Office would be the link between the two groups. Commissioner Swiecki expressed concern about the timing of connecting with students and said we should wait until we have the students involved. Commissioner Young agreed that once the Teen Diversity Dialogue program is in place, we can then ask the students what their needs are and how the Human Relations Commission could better serve them. Commissioner Dietz explained that communication between students and the Human Relations Commission is one of the goals of the Teen Diversity Program. Commissioner Calender agreed the more communication gets out to the citizens the more interest there will be in the Human Relations Commission.

Commissioner Young ended the meeting by clarifying that the Human Relations Commission represents the entire community from the elderly to the youth.

Rosa reported the next meeting will be Tuesday, August 9th at 6pm and will include a Ramadan dinner provided by Muhammed Zubair. To accommodate the Ramadan meal, the meeting will be moved to the Don Cassano room on the second floor of the Transportation Building, 200 E. Fifth Street (near Forest and College avenues) at the base of A-Mountain.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Prepared by: Dee Hodson

Reviewed by: Rosa Inchausti