

STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 19, 2016
TO: City Council
FROM: Carrie Dyer, Administrative Analyst
RE: Thong Hy Huynh Memorial Awards for 2016

Recommendation

1. Receive draft minutes from the Human Relations Commission meetings of March 31, 2016 and April 12, 2016. (**Attachment 1**)
2. Ratify the following nomination recommendations from the Human Relations Commission for the 2016 Thong Hy Huynh Awards. Awards will be presented at the May 3rd City Council meeting.
 - Lifetime Achievement:
 - Jennifer Terra
 - Civil Rights Advocacy:
 - Sean Raycraft
 - Excellence in Community Involvement:
 - Mariachi Puente
 - The Rotary Club of Davis Charities and Henry and Judy Wolf
 - Young Humanitarian
 - Gay Straight Alliance at Davis Senior High School

Fiscal Impact

The cost of presenting the awards is included in the 2015-2016 budget, funded by the General Fund.

Council Goals

The Huynh Awards represent ongoing business of the City and are not specifically included in the Council Goals.

Background and Analysis

The Human Relations Commission annually seeks nominations for the Thong Hy Huynh (“*tong hi win*”) Awards. The awards are presented once each year in memory of the stabbing death of Davis High School student Thong Hy Huynh on May 4, 1983. The award was established to raise awareness about and to honor community members whose actions exemplify the goals of diversity, community, social justice and equal rights.

The awards will be presented by the City Council on May 3rd. As per policy, staff brings the Commission recommendations to the City Council for review and ratification prior to issuing the awards.

This year's awards include the following categories: Lifetime Achievement, Civil Rights Advocacy, Young Humanitarian and Excellence in Community Involvement (Business or Organization). In the category of Excellence in Community Involvement, the Commission felt multiple nominations should be recognized. The nomination form, which includes descriptions of each category, is included as **Attachment 2**.

The Commission believes the recommendations are the best and most appropriate nominations in each category and asks the Council to ratify the nominations. The Commission is recommending the following nominations to the City Council (with summaries taken from nominations):

Lifetime Achievement: Jennifer Terra

For almost thirty years, Jennifer has nurtured thousands of lives at Emerson Junior High. Jennifer created a Peer Helping class, which is an amazing group of 13 - 15 year olds who are committed to helping make the Emerson / DaVinci a more inclusive and caring place. They do this through health presentations, anti-bullying awareness, diversity trainings, one-on-one mentoring, newcomer activities and community service. They also give presentations about friendships at the Davis elementary schools. One of Jennifer's Peer Helping students, a ninth grader, said "Peer Helping is pretty much everyone's second family. It's a class bound together with trust, respect, care and love. Everyone has each other's back. Ms. Terra always positive maintains the positive vibes, and it's a caring "communist," and you learn something new every day by being there. Our class is full of awesome kids eager to be in the class each and every day, even when they feel a bit under the weather... Through Ms. Terra's guidance it brings together a group of kind hearted, loving, influential and wonderful students who work hard every day to help their community and the people around them the chance to see a better world and lead them in the right direction, becoming better people... She's a great role model. I am so grateful for everything she's done." She has a gift of inclusivity and seeking justice in all her interactions with people of all ages.

Civil Rights Advocacy: Sean Raycraft

Sean is a Davis High Graduate and a tireless and passionate promoter for raising the minimum wage. An active member of his union and an employee in the grocery industry he has a unique perspective on the struggles faced by the majority of our community to gain dignity, respect and a living wage. His sense of fairness for all peoples in this struggle is so entrenched that he was among the few that remembered to speak up for the inclusion of living wages for people with disabilities. Sean has grown into his civil rights advocacy in our community participating in the local Black Lives Matter movement and supporting many other social Justice groups in town. He stands as an example for humbly serving so that all may know self-determination, independence, and respect.

Excellence in Community Involvement: Mariachi Puente

Mariachi Puente, a district wide student music group in the Davis schools, is open to any Davis public school students, but has been most attractive to students from Spanish speaking families, and especially whose families immigrated from Mexico or Latin America. They have expanded opportunities in the Davis school music program to a population of students that are typically underserved and serve as a catalyst for bringing Spanish speaking families together in community and pride of their culture. Mariachi Puente is run nearly on a volunteer basis and gives 25 performances annually.

Excellence in Community Involvement: The Rotary Club of Davis Charities with Henry and Judy Wolf

Bud has been a Rotarian since 1985 and Judy joined in 2009. She is currently the president of the Rotary Club of Davis. During Bud's tenure in Rotary he has been an advocate for children's safety. In 1999, as the club president, he presented the concept of a local, state and international child abuse prevention program that would focus on primary child abuse prevention through public awareness and education. The program was unanimously approved by the members of the Rotary Club of Davis, which is now considered the club's signature program for the Millennium. Judy and Rotarian Kay Resler, advocated for the prevention of child abuse to thousands of Rotarians from all over the world by demonstrating the devastating effects of shaking a baby and encouraging the initiation of a child abuse prevention program of their own. Because of the dedication and passion of the Rotary Club of Davis and the Wolf's to help end child abuse, there are now Shaken Baby Simulator dolls throughout California as well as in Kenya, East Africa and Ecuador. Judy wrote a Rotary International Global training grant, which was approved for \$49,000, which funded a team of child abuse prevention experts to go to Kenya to teach physicians, medical students and nurses on how to identify abusive head trauma associated with shaking a baby. There they trained approximately 1,200 medical professionals.

Young Humanitarian: Gay Straight Alliance at Davis Senior High School

This group has worked together this year to raise awareness among students, staff, community and school district administration of the strengths and needs of students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer, especially as they pertain to the high school environment, and provide direct support for the LGBT community through their LGBT Health and LGBT History campaigns. Important accomplishments this year include advocating for gender neutral bathrooms in the new All Students Center, speaking at the school district's Parent Engagement Night, lobbying for a special wall at the high school for posters on LGBT issues and topics, and directly addressing school board and district administrators with their concerns regarding LGBT health, building long-term institutional support for changes in policies and curriculum. The GSA has furthered the conversation about what constitutes a safe and welcoming school environment, and has furthered the reality by both its actions and its weekly meetings in faculty advisor Bill Wheeler's classroom.

Attachments

1. HRC minutes from 3.31.16 and 4.12.16
2. Nomination Form



City of Davis
Human Relations Commission Minutes
6:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Members Present: Ellstrand, Clinton, Davis, O'Rourke-Powell, Partida, Roland, Snow (ex officio), Friedman (ex officio)

Members Absent: Greenwald, Rosen

Also Present: Dyer

2. Approval of Agenda

Partida moved with second by Clinton approval of the agenda as presented.

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Ellstrand, Clinton, Davis, O'Rourke-Powell, Partida, Roland,

NOES: None

ABSENT: Greenwald, Rosen

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

- *Dyer announced Community Day of Service on April 23*
- *Snow provided School District updates*
 - *Superintendent search is happening*
 - *Principal of Montgomery is retiring*
 - *Restorative Practices Training partnering with YCRC*
 - *Diversion training with school district staff – outreach how to develop restorative diversion program*
- *Frerichs announced*
 - *The City held a Safety Walk on March 30. Chamber of Commerce, residents and business owners participated. Would like to expand to neighborhoods.*
 - *The Police Department swore in three new officers and had two promotions*
- *Partida announced that Davis Pride will be held on May 22 and has secured large sponsors. Ty Herndon is the performer and speaker.*
- *Roland announced that Friends of Empower Yolo is having a shower to celebrate the shelter expanding by 2 rooms on April 9 at 1:00.*
- *Ellstrand announced:*
 - *Native American Culture Days April 4 - 8*
 - *Indigenous Art Market – April 8*
 - *Native American Pow Wow – April 9*
 - *Asian Pacific Culture Weeks (April 11- April 22)*
 - *Night Market on April 22*
 - *Student led movement to fire Katehi going on 3 weeks now. Walk out and rally on April 1st at noon – Mrak Hall.*

4. Public Comment

None

5. Consent Calendar

Clinton moved with second by Roland approval of the February 25 regular and special meeting minutes. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Ellstrand, Clinton, Davis, O'Rourke-Powell, Partida, Roland,

NOES: None

ABSENT: Greenwald, Rosen

6. Regular Items

A. 2016 Huynh Awards.

B. *The Commission reviewed nominations received for the 2016 awards and made recipient recommendations.*

Roland moved with second by Davis to reopen the nomination period in the categories of Young Humanitarian and Public Servant with a new closing date of April 7th and a special meeting on April 11 for HRC consideration. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Ellstrand, Clinton, Davis, O'Rourke-Powell, Partida, Roland,

NOES: None

ABSENT: Greenwald, Rosen

Ellstrand moved with second by Roland the following recipients for the 2016 Huynh Awards:

Lifetime Achievement: *Jennifer Terra*

Civil Rights Activist: *Sean Raycraft*

Excellence in Community Involvement: *Mariachi Puente and The Rotary Club of Davis with Henry and Judy Wolf.*

Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Ellstrand, Clinton, Davis, O'Rourke-Powell, Partida, Roland,

NOES: None

ABSENT: Greenwald, Rosen

C. Breaking the Silence (TBD).

The Commission continued discussion as to whether to hold the event and if so, what its format should be and when it should be held.

Ellstrand read meeting minutes from February meeting to refresh HRC on latest work.

Roland suggested having a pre event for the community to suggest what is needed in regards to forum and help develop.

Davis suggested bbq or potluck to bring out people for discussion and have sheets to start conversation and answer questions and present conversation after bbq.

Snow suggests meeting with different family groups to encourage participation.

Subcommittee of Ellstrand, Davis and O'Rourke-Powell

End of September would good time for event

D. Cesar Chavez Day.

The Subcommittee of Davis, Partida, Ellstrand informed the Commission of progress and plans for the event to be held on Sunday, April 3rd.

Partida stated that Ellstrand did a great job on including community in planning and should be the practice for events from here on out.

The event will be from 2 – 4. There will be a Resource Fair concurrent with entertainment and speakers, as well as children’s activities going on. Theme is Health Equity.

E. Davis as a Sanctuary City.

Staff provided update on Sanctuary City efforts. Public Works is working on signage. HRC continues to discuss benefit of brochures with information about what it means that City is sanctuary city. – schools, family clinic, churches, center for families etc. Partida mentioned pamphlet from SF that we could mock up. Staff will locate.

F. Gender Neutral Restrooms.

*The Commission continued their discussion of gender neutral bathrooms in the City of Davis and received information on the number of single stall restrooms in City facilities. Staff provided information on bathrooms
Talked about working on gender issue policy.
What are costs of signs to go gender binary?
Bring back next month – gender based items and discussion of City creating a Transgender Policy.*

7. Commission and Staff Communications

- A. Anti-Bullying Efforts (Subcommittee Partida, Roland)
Roland mentioned Empower Yolo Fundraiser, Expanded into Davis at HS level, hoping to get to younger kids.*
- B. Schools Issues Subcommittee (Clinton, Davis, Partida) – Updates as needed
No update*
- C. Police Issues Subcommittee (Ellstrand, Greenwald, Roland) – Updates as needed
Staff will get update from PD on simulator training and restorative justice,*
- D. Long Range Calendar/ Commission Work Plan
Juneteenth in Woodland this year
Culture Coop -Maybe bring someone from Culture Coop come to HRC meeting.*

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Carrie Dyer*



City of Davis
Human Relations Commission Minutes
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, April 12
12:00 P.M.

I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

Members Present: Greenwald, Clinton, Davis, Partida, Snow (ex-officio)

Members Absent: Ellstrand, O'Rourke-Powell, Rosen, Roland

Also Present: Dyer

Clinton moved and Partida seconded approval of the agenda as presented. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Greenwald, Clinton, Davis, Partida

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ellstrand, O'Rourke-Powell, Rosen, Roland

II. Public Comment and Correspondence

None.

III. Review and Make Recommendations on Huynh Awards in the Categories of Young Humanitarian and Public Servant.

The Commission reviewed nomination submissions in the categories of Young Humanitarian and Public Servant. Two nominations were received for Young Humanitarian and one nomination in Public Servant.

Partida moved with a second by Clinton to award the Young Humanitarian award to the Gay Straight Alliance at Davis Senior High School. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Greenwald, Clinton, Davis, Partida

NOES: None

Members Absent: Ellstrand, O'Rourke-Powell, Rosen, Roland

Partida moved with a second by Davis to award the Public Servant award to Mel Lewis. Motion failed as follows:

AYES: Partida, Davis

ABSTAIN: Greenwald, Clinton

ABSENT: Ellstrand, O'Rourke-Powell, Rosen, Roland

IV. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45.



THONG H. HUYNH MEMORIAL AWARD NOMINATION FORM – 2016
Due Thursday, February 18 at 5:00 p.m.

NOMINEE:

Individual, Business or Organization being nominated:

Name: _____ Telephone No. _____

Address: _____

Email Address (if applicable): _____

(Please check only one category per nomination form. Submit a separate form if you wish to nominate someone for more than one category.)

_____ Lifetime Achievement

_____ Young Humanitarian

_____ Civil Rights Advocacy

_____ Excellence in Community Involvement
(For-Profit or Non-Profit)

_____ Public Servant of the Year

NOMINATOR:

Your Name: _____ Telephone No. _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please attach a written statement about the nominee's activities that addresses areas such as the following (it is not necessary to answer every question):

1. Why should this person be given an award in this particular category?
2. What do you consider to be the outstanding contribution(s) this individual, business or organization has made to human relations, social justice and/or civil rights in the city of Davis?
3. How long has this person, business or organization been involved with human relations, social justice and/or civil rights issues and in what area was exceptional achievement demonstrated?
4. How much of this activity has been as a volunteer and as part of their employment?
5. What are some reasons for this individual's or business' involvement in this area?
6. What community organizations is this person involved in?
7. What other special recognitions have been awarded to the individual, business or organization?

**Completed nomination forms and attachments must be received by
Thursday, February 18 at 5:00 p.m.**

MAIL: City of Davis
c/o City Manager's Office
23 Russell Boulevard
Davis, CA 95616

OR

EMAIL: cdyer@cityofdavis.org

For more information please call (530) 757-5602.