



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
Thursday, September 26, 2013

I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

Members Present: Yvonne Clinton, Nathan Ellstrand, David Greenwald, Judith Plank, Ann Privateer, Tilahun Yilma

Ex Officio Members Present: Leanne Friedman

Members Absent: Craig Blomberg

Staff: Danielle Foster (6:30 to 7:00), Kelly Stachowicz (7:00 to 8:30)

II. Approval of Minutes –August 22, 2013

Plank moved, with a second by Clinton, approval of the minutes. Minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Public Comment and Correspondence –

None

IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements

- *Ellstrand – Equity Seminar on October 19 at UC Davis. Also an immigration discussion on September 30 at 7pm at King School.*
- *Vanguard Restorative Justice event on November 9 at Veterans Memorial Center*

V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements

Stachowicz announced vacancy on commission (alternate position) and requested that commissioners share information with those who might be interested.

VI. Discussion Items

1. Juneteenth –

Jay Johnstone, Yolo County Library: appreciative of the Veterans Memorial Center facility. Overall the feedback was positive, and the idea of honoring the elders was well received. Bill Calhoun: concerns about celebrating Lincoln and Juneteenth. Focus should be on freedom.

Commission engaged in discussion about celebration of Juneteenth and appropriate ways to celebrate. Yilma: need to be able to measure progress. Privateer: importance of an event in Davis that includes both white and black individuals (Juneteenth). Greenwald: acknowledge Lincoln. Use our opportunity to educate. Plank: we can incorporate whatever aspects we want. Commission agreed to discuss Juneteenth at the October meeting.

2. Phoenix Coalition Update, Community Group Letter and Proposed Resolution –

Commission held discussion about the proposed resolution, which resulted in the request for the following changes:

Second bullet – add sexual orientation

Fourth bullet – Have Council support and direct Commission to educate community about it.

Fifth bullet – Add “develop”

Ellstrand moved, with a second by Greenwald, to adopt resolution, with changes as recommended above. Motion passed unanimously. Staff will put on the City Council agenda once commission minutes are approved.

3. Breaking the Silence of Racism Follow Up

a. Ellstrand and Greenwald provided an update on Police Mediation Subcommittee efforts, explaining that the group was still waiting to hear from facilitator. Need to decide whether to go forward with current facilitator or not. Subcommittee will set a deadline and report back next month.

Clinton moved, with second by Privateer, to authorize the subcommittee to continue to proceed as per earlier discussion, giving the proposed facilitator a deadline of Monday. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Clinton, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Plank, Yilma

NOES: None

ABSENT: Privateer

b. Continue planning for December 7, 2013 forum

Ellstrand: shared information from subcommittee (Greenwald, Clinton, Ellstrand)

- 1. Share all new initiatives (court watch, Phoenix Coalition, Neighborhood Court)*
- 2. Panelists reports (ask same or similar representatives as last year – Swanson, Pytel, Raven, Reed/Lang/De la Torre, Snow, Stoneking)*
- 3. Public Comment (new concerns since last year)*
- 4. Panelists respond*

Commission also discussed potential themes/topics: police/racial profiling and microaggressions

This discussion will continue at the October meeting.

4. 2013-2014 Calendar Review and Discussion

This item will be carried over to the October meeting.

5. Select 2014 MLK Planning Subcommittee

Plank and Yilma will participate on the subcommittee and will ask Blomberg or Privateer to participate as well.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:30.