# Davis HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

#### MINUTES

## Thursday, November 21, 2013

## I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

*Members Present: Blomberg (only present for Items I – IV), Ellstrand, Greenwald, Plank, Privateer, Yilma, Ex officio Members Present: Snow, Friedman, Helland, Doroshov* 

Members Absent: Clinton

Ellstrand moved, with second by Privateer, approval of agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **II.** Approval of Minutes –October 24, 2013

Blomberg moved, with a second by Plank, approval of minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

## III. Public Comment and Correspondence -

Diane Evans – District Attorney's Office received \$200,000 to increase enforcement around DUIs. Concerned that Latinos would be targeted. Would like Commission to consider ways to be pro-active.

-Mosaic Café at Davis Community Church trying to get organizations to join and be supportive. Would like commission to join. Would like to hold Chavez Day at Mosaic Café. Would like to broaden to people with disabilities.

Consensus to add both items to a future agenda.

#### **IV.** Commissioner Communications and Announcements

Blomberg announced that he was resigning and that this was his last meeting. (Left meeting shortly thereafter.)

Ellstrand: Davis Phoenix Coalition has been focusing on hate crimes. San Jose State students accused of hate crimes against black roommate.

#### V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements

K Stachowicz: Davis Community Resources cards helpful when dealing with homeless/transients. Both the hate resolution and the Juneteenth resolution on the December 3 Council agenda (consent calendar).

*P. Doroshov: currently the coordinator for homeless issues and shared some of the things we are looking into. K. Snow: large percentage of homeless in San Francisco are LGBT.* 

## VI. Discussion Items

## 1. Breaking the Silence of Racism Follow Up

a. Update from Police Mediation Subcommittee (Ellstrand, Greenwald)on potential mediation efforts

Greenwald and Evans: Met on November 1 and will meet November 22, and December 6. Judith MacBrine has handled and there will be an assessment at some point after the last meeting. Trying to come out with a process that defines a healthy dialogue between public and police department. Greenwald and Doroshov shared names of participants. Meant to be a pilot project.

Doroshov leaves.

b. Continue planning for December 7, 2013 forum

Ellstrand: format will start with institutional reports. Rev. Evans, Kate Snow, and Darren Pytel have responded that they will participate. DA's office will not participate. Still waiting for response from City Council and UC Davis. The second part will be a report from community groups: YIIN, Courtwatch, Neighborhood Court, citizens report from Diane Evans, Phoenix Coalition. Evans will reach out to Robb Davis or someone who is helping with Neighborhood Court. Greenwald will ask an intern to represent Courtwatch. Commission requested Lucas Frerichs attend on behalf of City Council.

Evans will be the timekeeper.

Ellstrand shared draft evaluation. Commission discussed evaluation form.

Snow: purpose of the forum? Evans: increased connectivity in social justice efforts in the community and eventually decrease in discrimination/racism/other social problems.

Discussion about how to increase the number of UCD students attending. Reed could ask for representatives of those areas to attend.

Reed outlined two recent incidents of racist activities on/near campus. Perhaps it's time to talk about a serious partnership between City and UC Davis to address racial incidents in the community.

Plank would like to talk about process at a future meeting.

## 2. 2013-2014 Calendar Review and Work Plan Discussion -

Stachowicz shared purpose of work plan and requests Commission to review and comment. Ellstrand asks whether other groups should be included. Evans: need to look at how we can incorporate other groups into the existing activities. Snow would like to have as many voices as possible in planning activities.

Include Discussion about partnership and joint subcommittee with UCD to address issues of hate and bias.

*Evans suggested having a youth component to Breaking the Silence and holding event in March or April (when more students could attend).* 

Judith MacBrine asked about restorative justice and UC Davis, particularly as relates to alcohol use.

Ellstrand would like to have a response team available to address incidents.

Commission consensus to forward work plan to Council.

# 3. Discussion of Proposed UC Davis Police Oversight Board -

Rahim Reed: in implementation stages of setting up a Police Oversight Board. Attended NACOLE meeting (national meeting on civilian oversight and enforcement). UC Davis is the first major university in the nation to consider police citizen oversight. Police Accountability Board could receive complaints from the public and from the police department as relates to inappropriate conduct.

Total of 7 representatives: 2 undergraduate students, reps from Academic Senate and Academic Federation, 2 staff members (union and non-representatives), graduate student. Further explained structure and selection process. Will meet quarterly and hear cases. On investigations side, will have at least one dedicated investigator. Explained process that groups will use. Group will determine whether complaint is substantiated and determine appropriate personnel action.

Commission will issue annual report and surveys of those who issued complaints. There is major outreach component to this as well.

Would like to have Commission up and running by end of Winter Quarter.

Greenwald leaves.

## 4. 2014 MLK Planning Subcommittee

Yilma reported out on theme and lineup: Education of African American children. Chancellor Linda Katehi, James Hildreth (Dean of Biological Sciences), Winfred Roberson (Superintendent), William Jackson (Chemistry Professor), Cruz Reynoso (Former Associate Justice of California Supreme Court). Showcase black males. Katehi could also provide keynote address.

Ann Privateer: Sandy Holman suggests getting three African American elders to pass a baton to three African American youth: Tansey Thomas, Tim Malone, Jann Murray Garcia

Commission will discuss further in December.

## VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.