



# HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

## MINUTES

Thursday, March 27, 2014

Members:

Yvonne Clinton  
Nathan Ellstrand (Co-Chair)  
David Greenwald (Co-Chair)  
Mehran Madani (Alternate)  
Gloria Partida  
Judith Plank  
Ann Privateer  
Ellen Rosen

Ex Officio Members:

Lt. Ton Phan (Police Dept)  
Vacant (HS Student)  
Leanne Friedman (Faith-based)  
Rahim Reed (UCD)  
Amelia Hallend (ASUCD)  
Kate Snow (DJUSD)

Council Liaisons:

Dan Wolk  
Rochelle Swanson  
(Alternate)

Staff

Kelly Stachowicz, City

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### I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

*Members Present: Clinton, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Madani, Rosen*

*Members Absent: Partida, Plank, Privateer*

*Meeting chaired by Greenwald. Clinton moved, with second by Rosen, approval of the agenda. Motion passed by consensus.*

### II. Approval of Minutes –February 27, 2013

*Clinton moved, with second by Rosen, approval of the minutes. Motion passed by consensus.*

### III. Public Comment and Correspondence –

*Stachowicz reported back from public comment at February meeting regarding the Downtown Parking Task Force and a complaint about interactions with the public.*

### IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements

*Ellstrand: UC Davis released Campus Climate Report. Overall, UC Davis fared well, with majority of students feeling comfortable. Asian Pacific Week on campus coming up first week of April. Second week of April Native American Week and April 19 Native American Pow Wow. Last week of April, La Raza Cultural Days.*

*Greenwald: Last week Vanguard hosted Judge's Candidate Forum. Turnout was strong.*

### V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements

*Stachowicz announced Measure O, sales tax measure, will be on the June ballot.*

### VI. Discussion Items

#### 1. Breaking the Silence of Racism

*a. Police Mediation Subcommittee (Ellstrand, Clinton, Greenwald)-*

*Assistant Police Chief Darren Pytel: Community Mediation Group met five times over the course of several months. Mapped out incidents (national and state) over the course of past 5-6 decades to see how they affected local responses. Correlation between law enforcement incidents and local law enforcement responses/concerns. Good communication occurs when nothing "big" is going on but community demands more*

*communication just when law enforcement may not be able to speak freely because of local investigation.*

*Proposes standing subcommittee of the Human Relations Commission to deal with issues. Hold forum when there is no local incident but there is a state or national incident (because then they can speak freely). Shared King City example of Police Department impounding and then selling off cars belonging to Mexican-American individuals and fact that local Latino community very concerned that same things may happen here.*

*Police Department does not want to miss any opportunities to help improve situations before they escalate locally.*

*Greenwald: may want to consider DUI checkpoint issue*

*Clinton: Group talked about having police visit Mosaic Café once a month to speak to individuals. Café planning to open in the fall. Pytel: plan is to have an officer attend and answer questions.*

*Pytel: group is still meeting to work on other components and will schedule another meeting in the coming months. Group working on shared and common goals. Next steps would be for Commission to create a standing subcommittee to look at police issues nationally, state and locally; facilitate conversations in the community; let police know when there are community meetings they should attend. Focus is to be pro-active.*

*Pytel: also looking at setting up coffees in other areas of town and other locations.*

*Ellstrand: is there way to keep mediation process going with other individuals?*

*Greenwald: was process worthwhile? Pytel: yes. Still trying to figure out how to replicate process with other groups. Have asked facilitator to think about ways to expand process to broader audience.*

*Greenwald: perhaps a permanent structure of a police/community group, other than the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) of police officers and others sitting down to talk about issues as they arise. If government entities could be enabled to make apologies to show empathy to opposing party, perhaps many disputes could be avoided or mostly avoided.*

*Clinton: standing committee members would need to keep up with issues. Not sure how frequently they would need to meet.*

*Rosen: utilize nextdoor.com to learn from neighborhoods.*

*Madani: Commission could act as a mediator in some individual cases. Pytel: will return in a few months with more information.*

*Agendize designation of standing subcommittee for next meeting.*

**2. Chavez Day 2014 Planning and Preparation –**

*Stachowicz will contact Keynote Speaker to finalize details of appearance.*

*Ellstrand: reported out on room set up, format and content of event. Commissioners who have panelist questions should send to Ellstrand or Stachowicz.*

*Staff will provide cookies/snacks.*

**3. Huynh Awards**

*Commission discussed nominations. Ellstrand moved, with second by Clinton, to nominate Cathy Speck with Lifetime Achievement.*

*AYES: Clinton, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Madani, Rosen*

*NOES: None*

*Rosen moved to have two Civil Rights awards. Motion died for lack of a second. Ellstrand moved Bill Calhoun for Civil Rights, with second by Clinton.*

*AYES: Clinton, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Madani*

*NOES: None*

*ABSTAIN: Rosen*

*Ellstrand moved, with second by Clinton, Bill Habicht of Davis Community Church for Excellence in Community Involvement.*

*AYES: Clinton, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Madani, Rosen*

*NOES: None*

*Clinton moved, with second by Ellstrand Landy Black as Public Servant nomination.*

*AYES: Clinton, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Madani, Rosen*

*NOES: None*

*Greenwald moved not to award Young Humanitarian, seconded by Clinton. Motion passed*

*AYES: Clinton, Greenwald, Madani, Rosen*

*NOES: None*

*ABSTAIN: Ellstrand.*

**4. Discussion of Street Names Review/Recommendations –**

*Clinton gave brief overview of work to date and will report out at the next meeting.*

*Subcommittee is looking for underrepresented groups, including women, and those with ties to Davis.*

*Adjourn 8:35pm*