



**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**Thursday, April 24, 2014**

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**I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda**

*Present: Clinton, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Partida, Privateer, Rosen, Phan, Friedman*

*Absent: Plank, Madani*

*Greenwald moved, with second by Clinton, to amend agenda to hear item 1 and then 5, then remaining items as time permits. Motion passed unanimously.*

**II. Approval of Minutes –February 12, 2014 Special Meeting, March 27, 2014 Regular Meeting**

*Greenwald moved, with second by Privateer, approval of minutes for February special meeting and for March regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously.*

**III. Public Comment and Correspondence**

*None*

**IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements**

*Greenwald – Attended San Francisco Public Defender’s Conference and heard many good ideas. Vanguard invited to do a Courtwatch program in San Francisco. Intermittent participation from ASUCD and no position from high school representatives. Would like to agendize a discussion about student recruitment for May meeting. Commission consensus to add an item to May.*

*Partida – Davis Phoenix Coalition is trying to get word out to the high school as well. Coalition has been asked to go to Billings, MT for the Not In Our Town annual gathering. Coalition planning a rummage sale May 10 for fund raising.*

*Ellstrand – next week La Raza Days – April 28 to May 2. Open to public. Saturday May 17 is Black Family Day on campus. Also open to public.*

**V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements**

*Lt. Phan: Picnic Day went fairly well, even though there were 40+ arrests.*

*There was recently one hate incident in a downtown bar during a fight over a girl. The incident was a remark made during the fight.*

**VI. Discussion Items**

**1. Yolo Conflict Resolution Center (YCRC) –**

*Orit Kalman, YCRC – Gave background of former city mediation program, which was eliminated in 2011. Volunteer community mediators came together to determine how free/low-cost mediation could continue. Have developed a plan to provide services through all-volunteer services. Looking to the City for resources, specifically facilities to hold mediations and for office space.*

*Privateer: is there overlap between community mediation and restorative justice? Orit Kalman explained purposes of community mediation, such as tenant-landlord issues.*

*Greenwald: currently, power asymmetry between tenant and landlord. Mediation program may be a lower course of action. Kalman: mediation trying to balance power.*

*Greenwald: will group be able to handle large caseload? Kalman: part of effort will be marketing and outreach to the community. Starting with 20 trained mediators.*

*Kalman: group asking for space to provide mediation, volunteer engagement and training; small office space, and referrals.*

*Rosen: concern that using city space mean that "city" is putting stamp of approval on outcome?*

*Diane Evans: Since the city's mediation program shut down, has there been a way to measure effectiveness? Danielle Foster: City still has a fair housing component, and there is definitely a gap because there is no place to refer people. YCRC fills a gap for people that don't have means to pay for market rate mediation.*

*Clinton: If funds are raised, what would funds be used for? Kalman: insurance, phone, computer, administrative fees, etc.*

*Greenwald moved to recommend to the City Council that the City support the YCRC proposal:*

- City provide referrals to YCRC*
- City provide non-staffed space to YCRC for mediations.*
- City negotiate with YCRC to provide, at no cost to City, office space for administrative needs.*

*Motion passed unanimously.*

## **2. Recap of Chavez Day 2014–**

*Francisco Dominguez – was Keynote last year...liked having it outdoors because some people are intimidated by going into a building. Maybe have it in Central Park where everyone feels comfortable going. Families and kids would attend.*

*Privateer: felt confined indoors. Some people had a problem with*

*Diane Evans: what if we had a tent in the park?*

*Partida: challenge to reach out and target the community most relevant to Cesar Chavez celebration but we may need to be more creative.*

*Rosen: most of the tabling was aimed at students, so need to expand to attract more people.*

*Discussion about having event at another location – Migrant Center or Family Resource Center at Montgomery Elementary – to attract additional audiences.*

*Ellstrand: speakers and panel were well-received.*

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

*Clinton shared her suggestions to suggest names for women and minorities who had contributed to Davis or Yolo County*

*Rosen moved, with second by Greenwald, to recommend not naming streets after people who are living. Partida asked for friendly amendment to add Korematsu and Narcissa to the list of potential names. Friendly amendment accepted.*

*Ellstrand made a friendly amendment to add Larry Itliong and Phillip Veracruz (farm worker movement in Central Valley) and Marshall (Major) Taylor. Friendly amendment accepted.*

*Motion, as amended, passed unanimously.*

**4. Showing of *The Laramie Project***

*Ellstrand will work on speaker. Will show at the Vets on Friday, May 23 at 5:30. Might have displays prior to showing, perhaps hate incidents that have happened in Davis over the years. Davis Phoenix Coalition putting together press release. Event will end by 9pm.*

**5. UCD Incident (taken after Item 1)**

*Jeffrey Lewis Mendleton, UCD Law student – shared account of incident on campus. Incident involved two UCD students of color and a UCD police officer (Terry) and he believes it was an abuse of police power. Cited several actions by UCD Police that were unacceptable.*

*Group wants outside investigation by City of Davis and apology by Katehi.*

*Greenwald asked whether the police auditor could assist and whether City could perform an investigation. Stachowicz: perhaps police auditor could assist and would talk with individuals but City has no jurisdiction to undertake an investigation for something that happened on campus with university personnel.*

*Partida: explained Davis Phoenix Coalition and suggested maybe the Coalition could assist.*

*Greenwald: Vanguard will put out a story about the incident. As an official body, thinks HRC should ask CC to ask UCD to perform an independent investigation from someone we can trust.*

*Ellstrand: Rahim Reed wrote to response to Aggie article to say that UCD was doing an separate investigation. Also UCD is supposed to have an independent review board.*

*Mendleton: have filed two complaints. Don't want complaint delayed until mid-summer because no students will be around.*

*Greenwald, Partida: Ellstrand and Greenwald craft resolution to Council to write a letter to UCD to appoint independent investigator to look into this matter. Motion passed unanimously.*

**6. Breaking the Silence of Racism**

a. Police Mediation Subcommittee – *Clinton reported that no more group meetings have taken place but Assistant Chief Pytel is working with consultant and may report out at next meeting.*

b. Appointment of a Standing HRC Subcommittee to provide community outreach and intervention related to national, state and local police issues.

*Lt. Phan reported out that we want to set up subcommittees and he would be part of a subcommittee here. Subcommittee would look at incidents and then look at what Davis can or should be doing.*

*Greenwald suggests that it be more fleshed out before it's finalized.*

*Ellstrand: develop proposal and bring to next meeting.*

*Clinton and Evans will work with Pytel to develop a proposal for May.*

c. Breaking the Silence 2015 – Commission may discuss preparations for the February 2015 forum.

*Ellstrand: Asked who would be interested in planning for 2015. Clinton, Partida, and Ellstrand (and Evans, Friedman) will be on the subcommittee to prepare for February 28, 2015 event.*

**VIII. Adjourn** The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.