



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
Thursday, July 24, 2014

I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

6:34 Ellstrand calls meeting to order

Members Present: Yvonne Clinton, Nathan Ellstrand, David Greenwald, Mehran Madani, Gloria Partida, Judith Plank, Ann Privateer, Ellen Rosen, Leanne Friedman, Paul Doroshov (Police Dept), Rahim Reed (7:30pm arr)

Members absent: none

Privateer moved, with second by Greenwald approval of agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes –June 26, 2014 Regular Meeting and June 26, 2014 Special Meeting

Greenwald moved, with second by Privateer, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously

III. Public Comment and Correspondence –

Diane Evans – There is a multi-cultural award that the commission may be interested in. Diane will send info to Gloria Partida.

IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements

Greenwald: Vanguard celebrating 8th birthday on Wednesday at 6pm at University Park Inn. Would like to have the Independent Police Auditor attend a meeting. Staff will work with Aaronson to set something up.

Clinton: Crocker Art Museum has exhibit highlighting Harlem Renaissance and Beyond artists.

Partida: Phoenix Coalition will be holding retreat this coming weekend and is taking suggestions about activities the Coalition should focus on. Also, Not In Our Town (NIOT) asking cities to participate in their gold star certification. Staff will connect with Partida.

Ellstrand: Cross Cultural Center hosting Native American PowWow April 11, 2015. Cross Cultural Center will celebrate its anniversary. Ellstrand attended Iftar.

V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements

Stachowicz- Council Member Lucas Frerichs is the Commission's new liaison. Council is currently on recess.

VI. Discussion Items

1. Breaking the Silence of Racism

- a. Police Mediation Subcommittee (Ellstrand, Clinton, Greenwald) will report out on any activity based on mediation discussions that have taken place over the past several months.

Judith MacBrine is working to get committee together on August 22 to review what's been created.

- b. Designation of HRC members to provide community outreach and intervention related to national, state and local police issues.

Hold until Part A is complete and report out. Partida met with Asst. Police Chief Pytel to talk about DPC plans and for DPC to implement their plans.

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

Ellstrand: No further discussion this meeting.

2. Discussion of Davis as a Sanctuary City – In 1986 and then reaffirmed in 2007, the Davis City Council proclaimed Davis as a Sanctuary City. Commissioners will discuss this designation, its meaning and its impacts.

Partida – At NIOT, learned that hate crimes are underreported by minorities because some may be afraid of deportation.

Ellstrand – Talked with YIIN about issue. 1986 resolution focuses on El Salvador and Guatemala. 2007 resolution expands to all undocumented immigrants. What about re-affirming the resolutions?

Doroshov – Davis Police Department (DPD) will turn an undocumented person over to ICE if ICE orders it. If there is a crime, it's possible that DPD might turn information over to the District Attorney's office. DPD does not contact people to try verify their status. DPD does not respond to someone complaining that someone is undocumented.

Partida – If we don't know Davis is a Sanctuary City, then how are other people supposed to know? We need to find ways to get the information out effectively. Through YIIN is a good mechanism.

Diane Evans – this would be good to incorporate into Breaking of the Silence.

Ellstrand – Davis Religious Community for Sanctuary was active until about a year ago. YIIN is looking into what faith communities are doing currently (not as involved as earlier).

Greenwald – some undocumented individuals in Davis; they keep a low profile. Need to have an understanding of what a Sanctuary City is and is not.

Rosen – put something to explain Sanctuary City in Spanish and English on the city's website.

Partida – DPD is the logical outreach point for dispersing information on Sanctuary City info.

Clinton – have DPD visit the Mosaic Café to share information.

Diane Evans – Davis could “adopt” children illegally cross the border.

Privateer – Children crossing borders – many do have family. Maybe IRWS could help. Put “Davis is Sanctuary City” on a road/entrance sign.

MacBrine – undocumented children in Yolo youth facilities. Are we seeing children from Texas in this situation? Yolo County no longer receives undocumented youth at juvenile hall.

*Would need to investigate how to incorporate Ellstrand/Greenwald: Reaffirm through a resolution, then that gives publicity. Incorporate into city signage. (Friendly Amendment: ask City Attorney to verify what can and cannot be done.) MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
Ellstrand, Partida and Greenwald will work on this with staff.*

- 3. Royal Oak Mobile Home Park** – Royal Oak is a mobile home community that lies in Yolo County; it is not part of the city of Davis. Several commissioners have requested an exploratory discussion about this neighborhood.

*K Stachowicz: explains location and that Royal Oak lies in Yolo County.
Ellstrand: talked with residents. Concerns with receiving certain benefits and resources. No recycling but garbage provide by city. City water. Under jurisdiction of County Sheriff. DPD does go into, especially for 911 calls, and has interaction with the park.
Paul Doroshov – some concern by certain residents about safety issues.
K Stachowicz – disadvantaged unincorporated communities
Ellstrand – no cable/internet services
Greenwald – residents are like second class citizens since they aren't fully Davis citizens
Partida – hear from officer who did community policing project in Royal Oak?
Ellstrand – management company under investigation by the state.*

Greenwald – tenant/landlord issues at Royal Oak have been a problem. If reestablish as a sanctuary city, maybe people would be more willing to come forward.

Mike Harrington – represented individuals from Royal Oak in the past. Was asked by different residents for assistance with titles, etc. on trailers. Safety issues. Improper charging and dealing with money. Thought that class action suit was necessary several years ago. Problem with electrical wiring in a just-purchased trailer that caused family to almost die. Should be incorporated into city and be subject to city's code. Could be difficult residency. Would likely have to offer the land owner a carrot to allow for annexation.

Greenwald – maybe get something on the City/County 2x2 radar to have them discuss the issue.

Greenwald moved, with a second by Privateer to request City Council to agendaize the issue at a City/County 2x2 and then return to the Commission for a response. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Updates/Recap

- 1. Anti-bullying campaign** – In June, the Commission heard about the efforts of the Davis Phoenix Coalition to spearhead an anti-bullying campaign.
Partida – DPC meeting this weekend to figure out details for coming year. Stachowicz shared Wolk concept of pushing anti-bullying.

2. Recap of Juneteenth Acknowledgements during July 4th Program

Diane Evans provided overview. Felt that things went well. Recommends next year that group participate in planning early on. Also interest in looking at where the program falls in the overall schedule. Good sound system.

3. Student representation on the Commission

Stachowicz will get letter out to campuses. Ellstrand will get UCD contact.

VIII. Adjourn

Next meeting will be August 28.

Meeting adjourned 8:10pm.

Upcoming Items Not Yet Scheduled:

- Neighborhood Court Update