



**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**Thursday, October 23, 2014**

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

*Members Present: Ellstrand, Greenwald, Plank, Rosen, Friedman, Partida, Privateer, Reed (arr 7:15), Snow*

*Members Absent: Clinton*

*Greenwald moved, with second by Plank, approval of agenda. Motion passed unanimously.*

**II. Approval of Minutes –September 25, 2014**

*Plank moved, with second by Rosen, approval of minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

**III. Public Comment and Correspondence –**

*Diane Evans – Yolo Childhood Planning Committee. Staff has been cut and can no longer put on child care conference. Many recipients are low income and need assistance for child care. Requesting assistance by Human Relations Commission in order to use facility (Vets Memorial Center). There are many multi-cultural elements to this request. Commission consensus to place the item on the November agenda for more information and discussion.*

**IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements**

*Leanne Friedman – November 9 at UU Church, Deputy District Attorney Chris Bulkley will be talking about restorative justice.*

*Ellstrand – Opening of Undocumented Student Center on campus. Good event and a lot of support on campus. All of November and half of December, Cross Cultural Center has an exhibit called Indivisible, sharing the nexus between African Americans and Native Americans.*

*Greenwald –*

- Vanguard Court Watch Dinner and Awards Ceremony on November 15 will honor people in the community active in social justice, including Partida and Friedman.*
- Also, attended the Principles of Community Anniversary planning meeting on campus...charge for the group not clear yet so not sure where it will lead. Willing to attend future meetings but will let staff know if there is a conflict.*
- Council reiterated their decision to return the MRAP.*
- Has received concerns about the name of Whites United for Racial Justice. Make sure meaning is clear and no one thinks it is about white supremacy.*

*Rahim Reed – Principles of Community coming up on 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Group will review and determine whether there needs to be any modifications or updates. Not looking to scrap the Principles. Recognize that campus is much more international than it was in 1990. Noted these are aspirational policies and values. Wants discussion to be civil but must balance with First Amendment rights. Also, will look at revisions/updates to the Principles of One Community created a few years ago. Would like a public reaffirmation to the renewed principles in the community in early March.*

## **V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements**

*Stachowicz: Commission appointments are going more slowly than hoped. Also, new City Manager, Dirk Brazil, will start November 3.*

## **VI. Discussion Items**

### **1. Breaking the Silence of Racism**

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

*Stachowicz: no new information, although Assistant Police Chief Pytel says that the project is still under review and is moving forward.*

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

*Ellstrand: no current updates but group will meet prior to next meeting.*

- c. State/National Issues Subcommittee Update (Clinton, Greenwald, Partida) –

*No updates.*

2. **Student Representation on the Commission** – The Commission has received an application from a high school student for consideration.

*Stachowicz: received one application from a high school student. Ellstrand moved, with second by Privateer, to approve Emma Fadel for the Commission. Motion passed unanimously in favor. Staff will contact Fadel.*

3. **Follow Up on Royal Oak Neighborhood** – Staff will provide an oral update on Royal Oak neighborhood and recent discussions related to the neighborhood.

*Stachowicz: City/County 2x2 discussed issue and want an update at a future meeting. State has jurisdiction for mobile housing as relates to code. The Attorney General's office is working on a class action suit against the owners. The suggestion of a Task Force was raised.*

*Greenwald: did investigation. Reported information directly from press release and received a cease and desist letter from company's attorney. Spoke with Deborah Gettleman from Legal Services who put him in touch with several residents who live in the community. Believes this is real estate fraud. Purchase home and rent land. Get introductory rate. Problems with physical structures. Problems with transfer of the titles (park owners sell structures they do not have titles to, etc.)*

*Partida: concern there are no internet connections. They would benefit from a neighborhood association.*

*Greenwald: Commission should continue to monitor the situation.*

*Ellstrand: Communicate concern about what would happen with these people if they could no longer live in Royal Oak.*

## **VII. Updates/Recap**

### **1. Update on Sanctuary City outreach and progress**

*Partida: meeting at Montgomery good. Invited migrant community but it's a very difficult community to attract to meetings. Overall, the meeting was well-received.*

*Ellstrand: many had never heard about the Sanctuary City status before. Now considering another meeting, all in Spanish. Seems like purpose of outreach was met.*

*Stachowicz: resolution for Sanctuary City will go on November 5.*

*Discussion ensued on signage and information pamphlets to share. Signage may include posters at organizations. Discussion about potential design or logo. Judith MacBrine shared a sample logo.*

### **2. Update on Whites United for Racial Justice proposed fall 2014 event** (Subcommittee Ellstrand, Friedman, Privateer)

*Friedman: Event will be at Veterans' Memorial on Saturday November 22. Working with other groups who promote social justice. Also looking to have entertainment.*

*Diane Evans: Whites Uniting for Racial Diversity and Justice*

*Friedman going to share name suggestions with the group.*

### **3. Update on MLK Day 2015 Planning** (Subcommittee Ellstrand, Plank, Partida)

*Plank: would like to have a service-focused MLK. Discussions about potential speakers and keeping someone local to talk about service. MacBrine suggested having service projects.*

*Stachowicz will secure Varsity.*

*Partida: ask press to have people consider possible projects for MLK Day of Service.*

*Snow: Neighborhood Court – maybe they could set up a training that weekend?*

### **4. Update on Anti-Bullying Efforts** (Subcommittee Partida, Plank)

*Partida: met with school representatives about how Phoenix Coalition and Human Relations Commission could partner with/assist with anti-bullying efforts. Considering working through lunchtime clubs.*

*Put Kate's Restorative Practice presentation on December agenda.*

*Partida: Requested Davis PRIDE on a future agenda.*

## **VIII. Adjourn**

*Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.*