



# HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

## MINUTES

Thursday, November 20, 2014  
23 Russell Blvd, 6:30 PM

---

### I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

*Members Present: Clinton (dep 7:30), Ellstrand, Greenwald, Partida, Plank, Privateer (dep 7:30), Rosen, Fadel, Friedman, Snow*

*Members Absent: None*

*Commission Introductions. Newly appointed commissioner Mandell Davis introduced. Will be sworn in and participate at the December meeting.*

*Clinton approved, with a second by Privateer, the agenda. Motion passed unanimously in favor.*

### II. Approval of Minutes –October 23, 2014

*Greenwald moved, with a second by Plank, approval of minutes. Motion passed by the following vote:*

*AYES: Ellstrand, Greenwald, Partida, Plank, Privateer, Rosen*

*NOES: None*

*ABSTAIN: Clinton*

### III. Public Comment and Correspondence

*None.*

### IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements

*Greenwald – Proposed two items for December: 1) amendments to the city's newly passed military procurement policy. ACLU came out with report on surveillance equipment and would like to include surveillance and large firearms to the list. Commission consensus to add in December. 2) Police Community Discussion held recently only shared police perspective. Police will have follow up discussion in late January. Assistant Police Chief Pytel agreeable to having counter viewpoints at the January meeting. Would like the HRC to agendize discussion about co-sponsoring the January. Greenwald moved agendizing the item in December, Plank provided a second. The motion passed unanimously in favor.*

*Partida: Phoenix Coalition working on putting on Davis Pride for 2015. Would like assistance from City and will put on future agenda.*

*Friedman: Whites Uniting for Racial Justice Shoulder to Shoulder Event on Saturday, November 22 from 2-4 pm.*

*Ellstrand: Cross Cultural Center has traveling Smithsonian exhibit Indivisible until December 19. President Obama made announcement on immigration for more focus on border, bringing high skill immigrants to the country and path to residency for (some) immigrants already in the country. Sanctuary City resolution passed at Council a few weeks ago.*

**V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements**

*Stachowicz: MRAP has left Davis for Woodland.*

**VI. Discussion Items**

**1. Breaking the Silence of Racism**

**a. Police Mediation Subcommittee Update**

*Stachowicz: The last part of the process is for the Davis Police Officers Association to vote on the proposal, which should be taking place any time. After that, we will agendaize for Commission.*

**b. Breaking the Silence 2015**

*Ellstrand: subcommittee recently met and event is planned for February 28, 1-3pm in Chambers. 1-1:30 in conference room and hallway there will be poster presentations dealing with discrimination. Panel will go from 1:30 to 3:00. Panelists will give brief introductions and talk about issues related to discriminations. Subcommittee would like to invite Kate Snow (DJUSD), Darren Pytel (DPD), Rahim Reed (UCD), Chris Bulkley (Yolo District Attorney), someone from Yolo County Mental Health or Social Services, and possibly someone from Davis Chamber of Commerce. Would like David Greenwald to moderate and Diane Evans to time keep. Will need to outreach soon with a save the date press release and then additional releases prior to event. Would like to have Spanish translation at event. Would like Davis Media Access to film. Would like to highlight role of Independent Police Auditor.*

**c. State/National Issues Subcommittee Update**

*Partida: may want to consider planning a response after Ferguson announcement. Or maybe we have something coincide with quarterly Chat with the Chief.  
Greenwald: email list so could assist with a quick response. Could also post elsewhere. Would like to be able to use Davis Community Church*

**2. Independent Police Auditor**

*Independent Police Auditor Bob Aaronson: Has been police auditor for Davis since 2006. Also police auditor in Santa Cruz since 2003. Visits Davis two days a month and is available by phone at any time. When in town, meets with complainants, reviews complaint files at the Police Department. Shared example of making sure in-car police cameras were repaired/replaced. Challenge is that the role of the auditor is not sufficiently transparent. Has to balance how he shares the information he learns.*

*Commission asked several questions about in-car cameras, how the public reaches him, trends in Davis, how to assess (and prevent) racial and socio-economic profiling.*

*Regarding trends in Davis, Aaronson noted that property crime is a problem. Student population provides goods of value and Davis is an easy on/off highway. People overall challenging police officers more. Militarization, privacy issues, and uses of drones are emerging issues throughout the country.*

*(Privateer and Clinton depart.)*

*Aaronson also noted: There has been cultural shift about what is acceptable behavior in the Police Department since 2006. For some officers, they are not vested in the community or really interested in Davis. Also noted that Davis is not a place for “traditional” law enforcement. Most important tool an officer has is his or her mouth. Many complainants really just want to be heard. Police Oversight Boards are transparent but often members do not have necessary expertise. By state law, police department required to allow for complaints.*

*Suggestion to have something on the Police Department’s website to allow for input.*

**3. Request to Co-Sponsor Yolo County Childcare Conference**

*Stachowicz explained that members of the Yolo County Childcare Planning Council has requested the Human Relations Commission co-sponsor the Yolo County Childcare Conference. Noted that Child Care staff said the Yolo County Childcare Planning Council had decided not to hold a conference in 2015. Explained that if the group did want to move forward with its request, staff would not be recommending the Commission co-sponsor the event.*

*Greenwald moved, seconded by Partida, that while this is a worthy cause, it should be taken up by the Social Services Commission. Motion passed by the following vote:*

*AYES: Ellstrand, Greenwald, Partida, Privateer, Rosen*

*NOES: None*

**4. Juneteenth 2015 Event and Planning/Participation**

*Stachowicz: A citywide event for Juneteenth will be held on Sunday, June 14, 2015. The Human Relations Commission needs to determine its level of involvement in the planning, preparation and hosting of the event. Since Council passed Juneteenth resolution at the recommendation of the Commission, the question is how, not whether, the commission should be involved.*

*Commission would like for commissioners to have more of a role in the actual planning of the event and need to lay out the terms and conditions.*

*Staff will talk with Sandy Holman and Jay Johnstone to share commission’s concerns and work with Ellstrand and Clinton. Mandell Davis offered to volunteer services as a DJ.*

**5. Martin Luther King Jr Day 2015 Subcommittee Report (Ellstrand, Plank, Partida)  
(15 min)**

*Subcommittee will update the commission on proposals to date for MLK Day 2015, including a keynote speaker, theme, and other activities. Event will take place at the Varsity. Subcommittee reported out that Tim Malone would be the Keynote Speaker and Service the theme.*

*Plank: working to find singer (Samantha Howard) and guitarist/panelist (Clarence van Hook)*

*Discussion about how not to conflict with the march in Sacramento.*

*Commission would like to think of ideas about how to engage the African American community.*

**VII. Updates/Recap**

**1. Royal Oak**

*Stachowicz: will be meeting with County in December.*

**2. Whites United for Racial Justice November 22, 2014 event**

*Ellstrand: need to determine level of involvement of commission.*

*Stachowicz will give Friedman, Plank, Partida and Rosen wording.*

**3. Anti-Bullying Efforts**

*Partida: gave update on work to date. She and Plank will schedule meeting.*

**VIII. Adjourn (8:30pm)**

*The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.*