



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
Thursday, February 26, 2015

I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

Members Present: Ellstrand, Greenwald, Roland, Partida, Davis, Clinton, Rosen, Fadel (ex officio), Friedman (ex officio), Phan (ex officio)

Members Absent: Plank

N. Ellstrand called meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Y. Clinton moved, with second by H Roland, approval of the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes – December 18, 2014 and January 22, 2015

H. Roland noted misspelling in minutes (No “w” in Roland.)

D. Greenwald moved, with second by Y. Clinton, approval of both sets of minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment and Correspondence

Gloria Partida, Davis Phoenix Coalition:

- End the R Word Day on March 4. (R word is “retarded”) There will be posters on Unitrans buses and Phoenix Coalition will be doing awareness raising on campus.*
- Phoenix Coalition will also be hosting a Chat with the Chief on March 9, 6pm to 8pm, with the topic of Islamophobia. Judith MacBrine will facilitate. 6pm to 8pm.*
- Phoenix Coalition hosting Drag Queen Bingo fundraiser on March 19 at 7pm.*

David Greenwald, Davis Vanguard: Editorial Board for Vanguard met to talk about series of articles about “Davis through my eyes” to look at Davis through diverse perspectives. If anyone is interested in writing something or knows someone who is, let David know.

IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements

D. Greenwald: March 3 will be police conflict resolution presentation. Item will be heard at approximately 8pm.

Y. Clinton: Shared Sacramento Bee article related to hate crime reports. Reports have dropped 39% from 2004 to 2013.

N, Ellstrand: Cross Cultural Center hosting event on Wednesday March 4, 4pm. Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism. Mixed Heritage Week is March 2-6. Several events on campus throughout the week. Principles of Community Week next week as well.

G. Partida: Next week, Ellstrand receiving award from the Chancellor for Diversity Among Staff.

V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements

None

VI. Discussion/Action Items

1. Breaking the Silence Forum February 28

N. Ellstrand covered details of event: poster session, forum with panel (Police Department, UC Davis, Davis Joint United School District) and community input.

2. Huynh Awards 2015

K. Stachowicz explained categories and schedule.

H. Roland moved, with a second by Y. Clinton, to accept the categories and the schedule for the 2015 Huynh Awards. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Cesar Chavez Day–

G. Partida: Subcommittee is Ellstrand, Partida, Laurie Bartuzza of Cal Aggie Christian Association, and Molly Bechtel

N. Ellstrand: Plan to hold event on Tuesday, March 31 from 6pm to 8pm at Montgomery Elementary, with March 28 in the evening as a back-up if needed. Thinking about justice as a theme. Looking for performers: Chavez Elementary, Mariachi Puente, other performers at Montgomery.

E. Rosen: Asked about children's activities.

4. Anti-Semitism/Islamophobia in the Community

H. Roland: Working with group who is addressing this issue. Students must be very involved; getting pressure from groups not on campus. Thinks this is a good direction to go and pleased that UC Davis is working on something.

Discussion ensued regarding current events related to Israel and Anti-Semitism.

D. Greenwald: Students wanted to bring divestment issue to the Council. Suggested that the students come to the Human Relations Commission. Problem is that the temperature is so hot on this issue that not sure Commission can assist.

N. Ellstrand: Gave overview of UC Davis and UC events. Divestment passed and Chancellor sent out email denouncing divestment. Muslim community had a large forum on campus, which made participants feel positive. Many people on campus addressing issue. ASUCD ruled that divestment is unconstitutional. Students trying to see if they can appeal. Many things already going on, both on campus and in the community. Recommends Commission support what is going on but not necessarily do one specific thing.

Roland: Anything that is done needs to be done very carefully and purposefully because people feel very strongly about the issues. Feels Commission can be more supportive by not taking a stand and by supporting all groups.

5. Sanctuary City Follow Up

Commission noted that the City Council passed a resolution in the fall, and a large part of the resolution was to have signage in the community. Commission needs to figure out what next steps are. Would like to at least have pamphlets.

Partida: Would like to have pamphlets ready by Chavez celebration. Also noted that Cecilia Greenwald and Carlos Matos had made presentations. Would also like signage.

Roland: Methodist church has big immigration rights push. What does it mean in terms of school district and mandated reporting, etc. Are there places that are not really safe? Want to be careful that we are giving correct information.

Direct staff to create posters and pamphlets (Ellstrand, Partida, Judith Macbrine and Emma Fadel could assist). Ask if posters could go in schools and at City Hall.

Rosen leaves: 8:20pm.

6. 2015 Commission Workplan

D. Greenwald moved, with a second by Y. Clinton, approval of the 2015 workplan. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Updates/Recap

1. Royal Oak

D Greenwald: Manager fired recently. Still looking into issues in the park.

2. Anti-Bullying Efforts

*Partida: Has not yet met. Going to DHS on Feb 27 to talk about bullying
Davis willing to do a performance.*

3. Update from Police Militarization Community Forum Subcommittee

Roland: Will email subcommittee members (Rosen and Davis) and include staff.

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm