



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
Thursday, August 27, 2015

I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

Members Present: Clinton, Davis, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Partida (arr. 6:45), Roland, Friedman (ex officio), Snow (ex officio, arr. 8:10)

Members Absent: Rosen

Ellstrand opened meeting at 6:35 pm.

Clinton moved, with second by Roland, approval of agenda. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Clinton, Davis, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Roland

NOES: None

ABSENT: Partida, Rosen

II. Approval of Minutes – July 23, 2015

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

AYES: Clinton, Davis, Ellstrand, Greenwald, Roland

NOES: None

ABSENT: Partida, Rosen

III. Public Comment and Correspondence

Judith MacBrine: Shared information about public urination that she shared with City Council. Requests that commissioners write to council members supporting a public bathroom downtown. (Shared written comments and photos.) Also, September 18, she will be hosting a 3-hour class on disability.

IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements

Clinton: There is a fundraiser Saturday (8/28) afternoon/evening (2pm -8pm) at Sudwerk Dock for Upstander event.

Roland: The play “Seven” is October 18 at 3pm at Vets Theatre.

(Partida arrives: 6:45pm)

Ellstrand: student community center open house on September 23 at UCD, 3pm-5pm.

Partida: Social Justice Coalition met August 26. Turnout was good. Trying to coordinate the groups.

V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements

Stachowicz: Council is back in session after summer recess.

VI. Discussion/Action Items

1. Feedback on Hate Crimes/Incidents Web Page

Stachowicz: Shared the web page that the Police Department developed for hate crimes information. Commission provided comments, which staff will share with the Police Department. In general, Commission noted they were pleased with the page.

2. Continued Review of Past Davis Diversity and Discrimination/Racial Issues Reports and Discussion of Human Relations Commission Focal Areas for 2015-2016

Commission focused on concerns related to the Davis Joint Unified School District. The concerns noted included the following:

- *Achievement gap*
- *Equality for students*
 - Discrimination as applies to discipline*
 - Pathways to King High School*
 - Consistency*
 - Gender sensitivity & identity for nonconforming students*
- *Professional Development Opportunities*
- *Treatment of students with disabilities*
- *Services to Title I Students*
- *Cultural Competency (ies)*
- *Cultivating individual talents*
- *Cookie cutter approach*
- *Bullying- do schools have plans to address?*
- *Hiring (and related challenges):*
 - *Pay*
 - *Affordability for local housing options*
 - *Lack of diverse community*
 - *Retention*
 - *Need to consider background of person in addition to color*

Discussion about what to do with the issues and how to proceed. Concurrence that a School Subcommittee would look into and report back in September. Subcommittee consists of Partida, Davis, Clinton.

Snow arrived (8:10). Explained District's preparatory sessions prior to school year starting. Talked about restorative practices and trauma. One talk on "Leading for Equity and Excellence." Feels like system is in a much better place to look at making changes, with a focus on restorative practices. State defines climate by suspension and expulsion and District still worried about disproportionate numbers. District has high percentages of enrolling minority students in a-g classes but not good at getting those students out of the classes with credit. Looking at data and trying to learn from it. With new changes in the testing (achievement gap no longer based on STAR testing, now based on SBAC scores), don't know how this will affect achievement gap.

Other comments related to focal areas for 2015-2016:

- *Reports that Sandy Holman feels there is unfinished business from the original Breaking the Silence 3 years ago. Action item list from the event. Why hasn't anything been done? Discussion that many things have been implemented.*

- *Partida: Outreach is a big part of K-12 education to help kids learn about diversity and discrimination issues.*

3. Sanctuary City

Chamber will not approve sign, according to Clinton.

Staff has not worked on signage or brochures.

Greenwald moved, with a second by Partida to recommend that the City purchase and implement street signs (Welcome to Davis, A Sanctuary City) in the city indicating that we are a sanctuary city.)

Friendly Amendment by Roland to add "since 1986"

Friendly amendment by Ellstrand to add: "...for immigrants and refugees"

Both Friendly Amendments accepted by mover and seconder. Signs would be at Richards, Russell and Pole Line.

Discussion about doing posters too, with information at library, schools, etc.

Motion passed unanimous in favor.

Consensus to have it as topic of next Chat with the Chief (October/November): Roland, Partida will work on.

VII. Updates/Recap

- 1. Anti-Bullying Efforts** (Subcommittee Partida, Roland) – *Upstander Carnival event on October 18. Looking for people to participate in that event. Each station will cover some type of issue (8 stations, each with a game, each with a lesson). Each organization should staff a station and bring information on what their organization is doing.*
- 2. Hate Incident Reporting Subcommittee**
HRC members hosting events. Does not need to go on next agenda.

Request to talk about events at the next meeting.

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.