



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
City Hall Willamette Room
Tuesday, August 24, 2010
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Commissioners present: Margaret Martinez, Kim Whitley, Tina Dodge Vera, Michael Thomson, Nancy Greenman, Linda Hart, Julie Jones

Commissioners absent: none

Staff present: Wes Hare, City Manager; Marilyn Smith, Management Assistant/Public Information Officer

Others present: none

WELCOME NEW COMMISSION MEMBERS

Kim Whitley introduced the new Commissioners and said that it has been a while since there has been a full Commission.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kim Whitley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 27, 2010

MOTION: Greenman made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections; Michael Thomson seconded. Approved 7-0.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

2010 National Night Out Event

Greenman said that she appreciated the letter from Lynn Hinrichs (letter included in the August agenda packet). Greenman said that she was pleased with the way the event turned out. Whitley said that it was nice that all of the Commissioners were able to attend the event. Linda Hart said that she was impressed with how polite the skateboarders were behaving.

Greenman said that the goal for the event was to be welcoming to the community, and the mission was accomplished. She said that it would have been nice to reach more of the neighbors. Greenman thanked Mayor Konopa and Marilyn Smith for taking care of the garbage pickup at the event. Margaret Martinez said that the Eleanor Hackleman Park is very nice. Whitley said that we have met our goal of fostering goodwill in the community.

Whitley asked the Commissioners what could be done differently next year to improve the event. Greenman said that she would like to see more people attend the event. Wes Hare said that we can try some different promotional ideas next year. Hare said that it may be that people in that neighborhood don't have an attachment to the park and that the skate park may be a deterrent to families.

Smith said that there are families that have lived in that neighborhood for many years and that there are also several apartment complexes in the neighborhood. Hare said that usually free food will bring people together. He said that it would be good to talk to the people living in the neighborhood. Smith said that three people signed up to receive more information about starting a neighborhood watch group. Hare said that music may draw more people to the event. Greenman suggested checking with LBCC and Martinez suggested checking with the high schools for possible entertainment sources.

HRC Annual Report

Smith said that the HRC Annual Report is on tomorrow's City Council Agenda. Dodge Vera asked Whitley if she wanted the Commissioners to attend. Whitley said that they could attend, but that it isn't necessary. Greenman said that she thinks that we have figured out how to do our job well.

Hispanic Advisory Council

Dodge Vera said that the group will be meeting next Tuesday. She passed out fliers for the upcoming Festival Latinos event scheduled for Saturday, September 18, 12-4:00 p.m., at Monteith Riverpark. Dodge Vera said that all of the Commissioners are welcome to attend the Hispanic Advisory Council meetings.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

Greenman said that last year we held a community conversation meeting and we hosted the Martin Luther King, Jr., Event. She said that what came out of the two events was the idea of meeting with high school students. Greenman said that she recently connected with the new principal of South Albany High School and has scheduled a meeting with the principal to discuss the event. Greenman said that if she is able to come up with a time for a meeting, she will send out an e-mail to the Commissioners to see who would be able to attend the meeting. Greenman said that she is hoping we can decide on the questions for this meeting via e-mail.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Tuesday, September 28, 2010, 7:00 p.m., Willamette Room.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature of file.

Diana Eilers
Administrative Assistant I

Reviewed by,

Signature on file.

Wes Hare
City Manager