



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
City Hall Municipal Court Room  
Tuesday, January 25, 2011  
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

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

Commissioners absent: Tina Dodge Vera (excused)

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

Others present: none

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kim Whitley called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November, 23, 2010

MOTION: Nancy Greenman made a motion to approve the minutes; Margaret Martinez seconded. Approved 6-0.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

Discussing Reaction to LBCC's Showing of the New Movie *Out in the Silence*

Whitley said that the group has not had any follow-up from LBCC regarding the flyers. Greenman said that it would be great to talk to someone from LBCC regarding this issue and to find out if this is an ongoing issue on campus. Whitley said that she would like to keep this on the agenda, and she will see if Toni Klohk can attend the next meeting.

2011 Calendar of Events

Whitley said that this item is on the agenda to continue the conversation about future events. Greenman said that there is a desire to reach out to the younger generation and to hear from them. She asked what City programs are used by youth. Smith said that there are a lot of youth that are employed by the City during the summer. She said that the Community Services Consortium (CSC) also employs a bunch of high school age kids. Whitley said that those kids would definitely have some different perspectives. Thomson said that the Boys & Girls Club would be another option but that the kids may be younger there. CSC is probably employing youth aged 16-20. Hart asked if this type of forum could be done during the kids' lunch break and if we could bring pizza. Smith said that she will bring back more information at the next meeting.

Events:

Mental Health Month – Smith said that the Arts Commission has been working on securing the Library art posting area for the kids' posters regarding mental health. Greenman asked if there is a way we can formally review the art.

January 25, 2011

National Night Out – Hart said that there was mention of doing this with P&R as part of the Community Picnics. She said that the HRC could have a booth at the event.

Whitley thought that there could be a booth at the Festival Latinos event. Greenman said that the survey could be distributed at the booth. Smith said that she will find out when the picnics are scheduled. Greenman said that we could also have a booth at a National Night Out event. Hare suggested that the group come to his neighborhood. He said that his neighborhood is diverse and it would be interesting to hear the responses. Greenman said that she will bring the survey to the next meeting for review. Smith said that National Night Out is August 2, 2011. Whitley said that there is also the option of the Linn County Fair. She said that we probably could attend any events where the City has a booth available. She said that the HRC can piggyback on those events. Thomson said that we need to think about what we are going to do with the information. Greenman said that we will look at the responses that we get and figure out how we can use that information to help the community.

Hare said that it would be good to have an event jointly with the HRC and the Hispanic Advisory Council (HAC). He doesn't have a good sense of how Hispanics feel in the community. Greenman said that the HAC definitely has ties and connections with this population. Smith suggested having a joint meeting with the HAC. Whitley asked if the HRC group is interested in doing that. The group agreed that they would like to have a joint meeting. Whitley said that she will check in with Tina to facilitate it.

#### South Albany High School Community Conversation

Greenman said that she has not been able to follow up at this time. Smith said that there may be challenges with the school district in general due to the cuts that they are facing. Hare said that he has talked with Maria Delapoeur to see about a possible low-interest loan to the school using the Pepsi dollars. He doesn't know if that will work out or not. Whitley said that this event is probably not going to be able to happen this year.

#### Martin Luther King, Jr., 2011 Celebration Event

Smith said that we have confirmed responses from two students from West Albany. She said that all of the other schools wouldn't be able to send anyone. Smith said that she sent out a news release about the event. Whitley said that she was planning to attend the event. Smith and Hare said that it may be best to cancel the event. Hare spoke to Larry and he said that he is still willing to work on creating some type of event. Smith said that another problem is that it is not happening on MLK Day and it may be easier to get interest from people if it did. Smith said that this year's subject matter was difficult to explain to people as well. Hare said that it may be best to distribute a news release postponing this event. Hart and Thompson agree with Hare's recommendation. It was agreed to postpone the event until further notice.

Whitley asked if there are any other dates to plan the event for. Hart said that she thinks it would be better for next year since MLK Day is over. Hart suggested working on a date now for next year.

#### 2011 Community Conversation

Thomson said that what the group is going to be doing at the picnics and other events will provide the information that the group is looking for.

#### Hispanic Advisory Council

No update.

#### Discussing Election of Officers

Whitley said that we will be keeping things status quo for this year.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

Whitley said that the sex trafficking topic has become pretty big. Hare said that it is being questioned about where the biggest area of trafficking is and if it is truly Portland. He said that sex trafficking is a problem and that it is irrelevant where the biggest problem area is. Whitley said that there are a couple of documentaries out regarding this issue.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Tuesday, February 22, 2011

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Signature on file.*

Diana Eilers  
Administrative Assistant I

Reviewed by,

*Signature on file.*

Wes Hare  
City Manager