



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

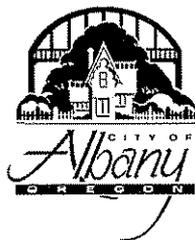
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
City Hall, Willamette Room
Tuesday, June 28, 2011
7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - May 24, 2011. [Pages 1-3]
Action: _____
4. SCHEDULED BUSINESS
 - a. Business from the Public
 - b. Staffing of HRC booth at one River Rhythms concert. [Page 4] (Whitley)
Action: _____
 - c. National Neighborhood Night Out (identifying a neighborhood). [Verbal] (Whitley)
Action: _____
 - d. Planning for July 26 joint meeting with Hispanic Advisory Council. [Verbal] (Whitley/Dodge Vera)
 - Does the HRC have questions?
 - What things does the HRC want to discuss?Action: _____
 - e. Updates
 - 1) Human Relations Award. [Verbal] (Michael Thomson)
Action: _____
 - 2) Hispanic Advisory Council (HAC). [Verbal] *standing agenda item* (Dodge Vera)
Action: _____
 - 3) 2011 Calendar of Events. [Page 5] *standing agenda item* (Whitley)
Action: _____
5. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION
6. NEXT MEETING DATE: *Tuesday, July 26, 2011, 3:00 p.m. [joint meeting with the Hispanic Advisory Board]*
7. ADJOURNMENT

City of Albany Web site: www.cityofalbanynet

The location of the meeting/hearing is accessible to the disabled. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify the Human Resources Department in advance by calling (541) 917-7500.



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

City Hall, Municipal Court Room

Tuesday, May 24, 2011

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Commissioners present: Nancy Greenman, Julie Jones, Kim Whitley, Tina Dodge Vera, Linda Hart, Michael Thomson (arrived at 7:30 p.m.), Margaret Martinez (arrived at 7:08 p.m.)

Commissioners absent: Kim Whitley (excused)

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

Others present:

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Nancy Greenman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 28, 2011

MOTION: Julie Jones made a motion to approve the minutes; Tina Dodge Vera seconded. Approved 4-0.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

Discussing Feedback from the May 12 HEART Resource Fair

Dodge Vera said that the Fair went well and was surprised at how willing people were to complete the survey. She said it was wonderful to have the bags that were provided by Kim Whitley. Margaret Martinez said that Greenman did a wonderful job of greeting and talking to people. She said that Greenman did an excellent job of explaining what the HRC is and does. Greenman said that she handed out 71 surveys and that no one took a Spanish survey. Marilyn Smith said that there were 151 people in attendance. Greenman said that most of the people seemed to live in the SE area of Albany. She said that there was quite a variety of ages in attendance. Martinez said that it seemed like people were glad to be able to say something and to know that their opinion mattered. Greenman said that she doesn't think that the demographic matches our community and that it appeared that Latino people were not in attendance. Dodge Vera asked if the Fair is advertised in Spanish. Smith said that it wasn't. Greenman said that most people that marked American Indian/Native Alaskan also marked Caucasian on the demographics.

Following is a summary of the questions and answers from the survey:

Would you recommend Albany as a welcoming place to live?

Greenman said that some people did answer no to this question and a few people vented. She said that there were complaints about the liming under the bridge. She said that one person said that people without homes and transients are two different groups of people. Greenman said that a lot of people gave contact information. She said that we can contact the people that wrote Albany isn't a welcoming place to see if they may be willing to share the reason why. Smith said that it was interesting that the request for a dog park came up so often at the Fair. Greenman said that two-thirds of the people in attendance at the Fair have gone to another community event in Albany.

Is it easy to get around town?

Greenman said that the answer to this seemed to depend on whether or not a person had a vehicle or bike. She said that most comments were about the bus routes and hours. Jones suggested having bus routes available at these types of events.

Greenman said that Anna Bensen, Linn-Benton Housing Authority representative, is interested in presenting to the HRC. Greenman said that she has contacted her and will follow up.

Dodge Vera said that the Fair was great and hopes that the HRC can do this at the Festival Latino event. Martinez said that she has been reading all of the letters to the editor about the homeless issue and said that she doesn't know what the solution is. She said that some transients don't want to be helped. Martinez said that many people who have lost their jobs and are homeless are too proud to ask for help. Smith said that every year people are connected with services that they are in need of. She said that 15 people turned in applications for birth certificates at this year's Fair.

Michael Thomson said that he works with St. Vinnie's and that he was giving out vouchers for St. Vinnie's Thrift Store at the Fair. He said that he is going to talk to St. Vinnie's in Eugene to see if they can give more vouchers for next year.

Greenman said that they were next to the haircut booth and was amazed how quickly they were cutting hair.

Greenman said that the HRC will distribute surveys at Festival Latino and River Rhythms. She said that this will let us get a good sampling of the community.

Linda Hart asked if we will hand out bags at Festival Latino. Dodge Vera said that no bags will be necessary as it is more of a family-fun type event. Greenman said that in July/August we will put a roster together to figure out who is going to staff the booth and we can figure out who wants to staff a booth at River Rhythms at the June meeting. River Rhythms begins Thursday, July 7.

Human Relations Commission Community Award

Thomson handed out a nomination form and asked what the group thinks. He said that nominees don't have to be city of Albany residents. Greenman asked that the form mention that the award is sponsored by the HRC.

Thomson said that he would like the award to simply be called the Human Relations Award instead of naming it after one particular person. Greenman said that the nominee information may need to be made more specific. She suggested adding checkboxes to differentiate between individual persons and organizations. Dodge Vera suggested limiting responses to one or two pages or 500 words. The HRC agreed that limiting responses to 500 words or less would be appropriate.

Hispanic Advisory Council (HAC)

Dodge Vera said that the group hasn't met this month yet, and she doesn't have anything to report at this time.

2011 Calendar of Events

Greenman said that Friday, June 3, LBCC will be celebrating Juneteenth. She said that Juneteenth is a celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States. She said that from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., students are going to read pieces of Emancipation literature. Also, a traditional meal of foods that would have been eaten during those times will be served. Greenman said that she is going to go and encouraged other Commissioners to attend.

National Night Out – Smith said that a neighborhood can be chosen by the HRC at the regularly scheduled June meeting.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

Greenman said that it was great to speak to the youth at the last meeting. Jones said that they seemed really comfortable speaking. Dodge Vera said that so many of them are parents. Greenman said that the revelation to her is that there are a lot of adult activities and a lot of younger kid activities but not a whole lot of activities for older youth. Hare said that we invest heavily in things for kids to do in the community. Martinez said that she is surprised by how many teenagers go to the Albany Public Library. Hare said that the Library has many programs available.

Greenman said that she won't be at next month's meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Tuesday, June 28, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Eilers
Administrative Assistant I

Reviewed by,

Wes Hare
City Manager



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Parks & Recreation Department
Ed Hodney, Director
333 Broadalbin Street SW
P.O. Box 490
Albany, OR 97321
541-917-7777
Website: www.cityofalbany.net
Twitter: twitter.com/cityofalbany
Facebook: facebook.com/cityofalbany

Date: April 25, 2011

Contact: Lynne Jamison, Recreation Coordinator, 541-917-7771

SUBJECT: 2011 River Rhythms concert series

Albany Parks & Recreation announces the line-up for the 2011 River Rhythms concert series:

- **July 7 – Coco Montoya.** Montoya was voted best new blues artist in the W.C. Handy Awards competition in 1996.
- **July 14 – Plena Libre.** Based in Puerto Rico, this 12-piece band combines rhythm, horns, vocals and dance for a high-energy performance.
- **July 21 – Lonestar,** country, at the Linn County Fair.
- **July 28 – Crazy 8s.** Formed by Todd Duncan in Corvallis in 1984, the band has been called one of the hardest-working and most energetic American ska groups of the 1980s with a loyal Northwest following.
- **August 4 – Sammy Kershaw.** Louisiana-born with an early career in ballads, updated honky-tonk, Southern rock and Cajun flavor, Kershaw's best-known music is cross-over country-pop.
- **August 11 – B.J. Thomas.** One of the most successful country-pop stars of the late 1960s and '70s, Thomas's hits include "Hooked on a Feeling" and "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on my Head."

River Rhythms concerts are held at Monteith Riverpark in downtown Albany. All concerts are free but donations are encouraged.

Blanket seating opens at 5:30 p.m. Chairs are allowed outside the blanket area and may be set up earlier in the day.

The River Rhythms Trolley provides free rides to the park from At Home Furniture, 930 Hill St. SE, and from downtown. Trolley stops are marked at various downtown locations. The trolley runs every 30 minutes starting at 5:00 p.m.

Local food vendors sell a variety of food during the concert. Free art activities for the children prior to the concert start at 5:30 pm.

No pets are allowed in the park during the performances. Handicapped parking is available.

This is the concert series' 28th year. For more information about River Rhythms and acts on this year's line-up, visit [Facebook.com/Riverrhythms](https://facebook.com/Riverrhythms) or www.riverrhythms.org

EXCERPT FROM OCTOBER 26, 2010, HRC MINUTES

Setting Calendar of Events for 2011

Greenman said that she suggested starting the calendar with November. Following is a list of events planned so far:

~~November 2010 – South Albany High School Community Conversation~~
~~December 2010 – No events scheduled at this time.~~
~~January 2011 – Martin Luther King, Jr., Event (canceled due to lack of participants)~~
~~February 2011 – No events scheduled at this time.~~
~~March 2011 – No events scheduled at this time.~~
~~April 2011 – CSC Youth Question and Answer Forum~~
~~May 2011 – Mental Health month. Art Show at the Library. Greenman said that last year the HRC partnered with Linn County Mental Health as a poster sponsor. Hosting a booth at the Homeless Resource Fair and will hand out daily living kits.~~

June 2011 – No events scheduled at this time.

July 2011 – Hosting a booth at River Rhythms ~~and Mondays at Monteith.~~
HRC/HAC meeting.

August 2, 2011 – National Night Out Event – Greenman said that the HRC should start planning for this event in the spring if the group wants to continue with the event. ~~Smith suggested contacting P&R to see about joining in with their community picnics. Smith said that P&R hosts the picnics at different parks each year. Smith said that the picnics are typically held in June. Greenman said that if the HRC is interested in taking part in these picnics, then the group will need to start talking about it in February.~~

September 2011 – Greeters at Festival Latino

October 2011 – No events scheduled at this time.

November 2011 –
December 2011 –
January 2012 –
February 2012 –
March 2012 –
April 2012 –
May 2012 –
June 2012 –
July 2012 –