



## HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION (HRC)

City Hall, Willamette Room

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

### MINUTES

Commissioners present: Kim Whitley, Michael Thomson, Leonor Rodriguez (arrived at 7:20 p.m.),  
Nancy Greenman, Julie Jones

Commissioners absent: Tina Dodge Vera (excused), Linda Hart (excused)

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

Others present: From Linn County Mental Health: Frank Moore, Clifford Hartman, and Kathryn Henderson

### CALL TO ORDER

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 24, 2012

Greenman noted a correction to the minutes: the spelling of Sharon Gisler's name.

**MOTION:** Michael Thomson made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; Nancy Greenman seconded.  
Approved 5-0.

### SCHEDULED BUSINESS

### BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

### Mental Health Awareness

Frank Moore introduced Clifford Hartman, program manager; and Kathryn Henderson, co-chair of the Linn County Mental Health Advisory Board and Linn County Council of Children and Family Services. He invited them to share about the Mental Health Awareness activities and plans. Henderson shared that this is her third year working on the Mental Health Advisory Committee. She said that October is the month they focus on mental illness awareness and then in the spring the emphasis is on mental health awareness. Also, May 9 is National Children Mental Health Day. She said that the Committee has tried a variety of strategies to engage the community but with minimal success. Henderson said that she appreciates the willingness of the HRC to partner with them. The Committee is looking for new ideas to communicate with the community. Some thoughts have been distributing literature at Heritage Mall and setting up displays at the Farmer's Market. Henderson expressed the Committee's desire to educate the public and get rid of the stigma associated with mental illness.

Henderson revealed this year's poster to the group. It was a smaller version of the one they will actually be distributing. She said that they are looking for suggestions of different venues to distribute the poster. One venue they use is the HEART to Heart Resource Fair. Hartman expressed a need for help in having the posters distributed within the community. Henderson suggested using more than one weekend to distribute the posters. Hartman said that there is also Live Well Age Well Health Expo for seniors at the Linn County Fairgrounds in May. Greenman said that she had attended the showing of *A Beautiful Mind* a couple years ago and expressed how lovely the event was.

Henderson brought up the question of the Committee's objective and how they would like to weave together the aspects of emotional, mental, and physical health. She explained that they would like educational materials handed out by people

willing to engage the public in conversation and obtain feedback. Greenman shared that she has done things like that at the Farmer's Market and found that it is a good place to receive feedback. Whitley suggested looking into whether or not the P&R Department had anything planned in the month of May where the commission could distribute materials. She also suggested the ACT's performance of *High School Musical* in May as an opportunity to do something. Another venue option Whitley suggested was Samaritan Healthy Kids Program. The commission could ask Samaritan Health Services to send mental health materials to all the Albany "Healthy Kids" participants. Whitley also explained the Samaritan Stewardship Program, which is an interactive website. She suggested contacting SHS about posting mental health material on their website that members could participate in. Whitley asked Smith if the City's website could have interactive materials posted to it, and Smith said that she would look into it.

Henderson asked if the HRC would be willing to help with the distribution of the Mental Health Awareness Posters. They could start off with about 200 11"x17" posters. Wes Hare suggested having a supply of posters available at the Albany Downtown Association and at City Hall. Greenman asked if it was possible to add sponsors' names at the bottom of the posters. Henderson thought that was a good idea and would look into having the names added. When the posters are finished, LCMH could give the posters to Smith, who then could bring them to the next meeting. Some of the posters will be passed onto the Hispanic Advisory Council (HAC) to distribute. Leonor Rodriguez asked when the posters would be ready. The goal is to have them completed by March 13, but it could take a little longer with adding sponsor names and logos. Greenman suggested having posters done in Spanish, too. If the posters were done by March 13, Rodriguez could hand them out at the March 19 HAC meeting. The HRC agreed to help distribute the posters and to have them available at City Hall. Whitley said that the HRC will offer additional support by looking into providing interactive exercises on the SHS and City of Albany websites and providing a flyer (which could be a smaller form of the poster with added resources) for Samaritan Healthy Kids. The HRC will also seek ways to join with the public in health awareness conversations. LCMH will provide dates to the HRC for events they are planning.

Moore introduced the topic of health transformation through the system of Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO). He passed out three handouts that are available online at [www.health.oregon.gov](http://www.health.oregon.gov): CCO Frequently Asked Questions, CCO Implementation Proposal, and HB3650 Section 13. CCOs are local health entities that will coordinate health care and coverage for people eligible for Medicaid, including those also covered by Medicare. The aim is to lower the high cost of care by emphasizing prevention, reducing waste, improving efficiencies, and eliminating avoidable differences in quality and outcomes. They will be governed by a partnership among health care providers, community members, and stakeholders in the health systems that have financial responsibility and risk. According to Section 13 of the bill, a CCO must have a community advisory council to ensure that the health care needs of the consumers and the community are being addressed. Moore said that this is the junction they are at now and that the HRC could have a role. He explained that moneys could come to Oregon as an early adopter of the coordinated care plan. Whitley asked Moore if he saw the role of the HRC as an access point or as actual members that sit on the council. Moore stated that he sees the role of the HRC as being aware of the council, and when there are community meetings, those members interested could be involved. They are looking for input and ways to promote the system to the community. Whitley said that it is important that Linn County residents have a voice in this; that their needs are heard. Greenman asked if there were plans to promote the information to the Latino community as well. Moore said that there was. Greenman also asked if Spanish translation would be provided at the council's meetings. Moore said that they are working on that aspect. Clifford implored the group to be thinking about individuals and groups that would want to have a voice in the process and to identify them now rather than waiting until later. Greenman suggested Community Services Consortium, Linn-Benton Housing Authority, and HEART. Whitley suggested reaching out to developmentally disabled groups.

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

Greenman reported that this is the event's first year and it will be held Wednesday, March 7, at the Albany Public Library's meeting room. She asked that the HRC members arrive between 4:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Children will be showing off what they have done. Greenman said that the children will be excited and that support from the HRC by attending the event will be appreciated.

Whitley shared that in the past nametags for the group have not been available. It would be nice for the group to be identifiable. Smith volunteered to provide sticker type name tags with the city logo to wear at the event and look into having more permanent name badges made for the future.

Greenman said that she would be at the event, and Thomson said that his attendance was tentative. Whitley, Jones, and Rodriguez said that they would not be attending due to prior commitments. Whitley will send an e-mail to ask Tina Dodge-Vera and Linda Hart if they would be attending.

HEART to Heart Resource Fair, Thursday, May 17

Smith reported that the event will be Thursday, May 17, at the Boys and Girls Club from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Smith said that another source was providing the daily living kits. The group agreed that they would like to participate by administering a survey and helping pass out the kits. Greenman agreed to create the surveys. Jones expressed that she was supportive of the event but does not know if she will be able to attend because of her upcoming school schedule. Whitley asked that the topic be kept on the agenda. At the next meeting, they will talk about who will be able to attend and help.

Human Relations Award Debrief

Thomson said that the presentation went well. Thomson felt that he gained a better understanding of the City Council's process for next time. The City Council really liked the appearance of the award. It was beneficial that the *Albany Democrat-Herald* mentioned the award in the newspaper.

Annual Reports

Greenman is still working on a draft of the 2010 report. When it is finished, Whitley will send it and the 2011 report by e-mail for the group to review and note any corrections.

Hispanic Advisory Council (HAC)

None.

Calendar of Events: 2012

Whitley asked that "Hosting a booth at River Rhythms" be added to the next agenda.

**BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION**

None.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

Since the March meeting will fall during Spring Break and many members would not be able to attend, Whitley asked if the group would want to combine March and April's meeting. The group liked the idea and agreed to be surveyed as to whether Tuesday, April 3, or Tuesday, April 10, would be best.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Signature on file.*

Gina Burrese  
Administrative Assistant

Respectfully submitted,

*Signature on file.*

Diana Eilers  
Administrative Assistant I

Reviewed by,

*Signature on file.*

Wes Hare  
City Manager