

**HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

March 7, 2012

Present: Commissioners David Harburg, Esther Griffin, Jamila Kisses, Rob Solomon, Mariam Ali, Mackenzie DeLong, Alternate Commissioners Dan Vi Nguyen, Sheri Struk and Staff Liaison Bob Crocker.

Absent: Commissioners Alton Harvey, Karen Redington and City Councilor Cathy Stanton

The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm. Minutes of the February 1, 2012, meeting were reviewed and approved as amended. Commissioner Kisses moved to approve and Commissioner Harburg seconded. Passed.

Communications from the City Staff Liaison: Bob Crocker presented the commission with a sample of a name tag. The purpose of the name tag would be to use as an identifier for any HRAC member who was out in the public. Commissioner Kisses moved to order the name tags. Commissioner Griffin seconded. Passed.

Communications from the City Council Liaison Cathy Stanton: None

Hearings:

Pavel Goberman again presented, what he feels, was a wrongful termination from Tri-Met in 1998. Mr. Goberman explained his case to the commission. Commissioner Kisses motioned to send Pavel Goberman a letter within ten days reiterating previous letters the City has sent. Seconded by Alternate Commissioner Struk.

The commission discussed current movement in regards to Commissioners. Maria Moreno and Tresa Cavanaugh resigned. The Commission is proposing to move Alternate Commissioner Struk to a full Commissioner. The commission is also requesting to have Juanita Villarreal be added as an Alternate. These mid-term changes will go before City Council on April 3.

The commission agreed to have a follow-up meeting in June; having the meeting in Spanish and use translation headsets for guests. Ideas for the guest speaker(s) included Andrew Riley from the Center for Intercultural Organizing (CIO) to talk about Secured Communities and Beth Poteet from Oregon New Sanctuary Movements, an organization supporting undocumented immigrants.

Project updates:

Commissioner Griffin discussed the Creative Expression Contest (CEC). The contest, open to students who are Beaverton residents or the Beaverton School District began on January 15th and will conclude on February 24th. The flyer was sent out to all BSD schools, Beaverton private schools and homeschool network; flyers were also posted at City Hall, Libraries and THPRD facilities. The advertisement was also printed in "Your City", The Oregonian and Beaverton Valley Times. Information about the contest was also posted in the Oregonian. The commissioners were given the opportunity to view each submission and were also provided electronic copies of each submission to view outside the HRAC meeting. Commissioners will discuss and vote on the entries during the April meeting.

Miscellaneous Business:

A brief discussion about the HRAC Facebook page took place. The Commission is at a stand-still until the Mayor's Office approves it.

Alternate Commissioner Nguyen suggested working with each cultural community and from that outreach getting a representative who will help the HRAC. The goal would be to get input from the different cultures, and what the HRAC could do to be of service. After this idea was presented, the commission formed a sub-committee to begin this project. Commissioner Ali and Redington will assist Commissioner Nguyen with this project. Members of the commission will be contacting CIO and other groups to get leads on individuals who might be interested.

Commissioner Kisses discussed the "Mayor's Freedom to Marry" petition where Mayors from across the country are signing petitions in support of the freedom of same-sex couples to marry. The commission voted on a motion to present this petition to the Mayor, however, it was moved to suspend the action until next HRAC meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kisses, seconded by Commissioner Harburg. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm. After adjournment, Commissioners took time to view all of the CEC entries.