

**HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
October 6, 2010**

Present: Commissioners Alton Harvey, Daniel Brown, David Harburg, Esther Griffin, Maria Moreno, Rob Solomon, Alternate Commissioner Jamila Kisses, Alternate Commissioner Heminder Singh and Staff Liaison Nancy Bates

Excused: Commissioner John Cornelius and Alternate Commissioner Blair Thomas, Council Liaison Catherine Arnold

Guest(s): Beth Mogck

Communication from Staff Liaison: (1) The Human Rights Council of Washington County and the Hillsboro Police Bureau invitation to participate in an event titled "A Community Hate Crimes Forum" on October 21, 2010. At the December 7, 2010 City Council meeting there will be a special proclamation to honor the 62<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

No hearings

Meeting started at 6:37PM. Minutes of the September 1 meeting were approved.

Commissioner Griffin reported that she sent out an e-mail that gives an update about the various NAC meetings. Chair Solomon and Commissioner Brown both gave reports about their individual NAC meetings. The general consensus was that few neighbors know about the Human Rights Advisory Commission.

Staff Liaison was asked to look into getting the PowerPoint presentation that was used at the NAC meetings embedded into the Human Rights Advisory Commission website. If that is done, the Commissioners asked that it be sent to them.

Report by Outreach Subcommittee

Efforts to connect to different groups in the City resulted in a scheduled appearance at the Asian Wellness and Service Center on Wednesday, October 6. Commissioners Solomon, Harburg and Kisses visited and spoke. They presented the PowerPoint presentation, which was translated into their language. A translator was present for the participants. Two more presentations were planned for Friday, October 15. The Korean language and one other language will be represented. The expectation was 30 participants.

Commissioner Griffin reported about the THPRD/Nike Latino Soccer Event. The event included a family fiesta and soccer clinic. It was reported to be very organized and well staffed. Several translators were present. The kids who participated in the clinic got soccer balls and bags. There were approximately 200 youths with their parents.

The Bureau of Labor and Industry statistics for July through September 2010 were handed out. The HRAC receives the data on a regular basis. Commission working with BOLI so that during the legislative sessions there can be a human rights watch. That has not happened, but there is hope that it can. Alternate Commissioner Kisses asked the Commission to have someone keep track of the data to be able to see trends. Chair Solomon will ask if BOLI will project the data, or a commissioner will have to take on the task.

Chair Solomon reported on the Washington County Council on Human Rights Forum on Immigration in mid November. The committee is trying to get a higher profile person.

### Miscellaneous Business and Communication

Commissioner Kisses expressed concern about Islamic phobia that is going on in the country and possibly locally. Should the HRAC request that the Mayor make a statement? It happened four weeks ago, but seems to be dying down now. Does the Commission want to engage in discussions with other groups? Can there be a proposal made? Can consensus be established via e-mail? There was a discussion about how the Human Rights Advisory Commission engages in a conversation about controversial issues, e.g., Islam, Mexican Celebration, etc.

Concern was expressed about news article about the student teacher being transferred to Portland because of a dialogue with a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student regarding the student teacher's marital status.. Discussion about people not being able to stand up against vocal minority. A suggestion was made to invite a Beaverton School District official to come and speak at the HRAC meeting. Chair and Vice Chair will draft a letter.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Deputy Sheriff Keith Bickford from Multnomah County spoke on human trafficking. Approximately 9 members of the public were in attendance.