

**HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
January 5, 2010**

Present: Commissioners Alton Harvey, David Harburg, Daniel Brown, Debra Healy, Esther Griffin, Judith Auslander, Rob Solomon, Alternate Commissioner Mariahm Stephenson, Staff Liaison Brian Strohl and Council Liaison Catherine Arnold  
Excused: Commissioners Blair Thomas and John Cornelius

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

Roll call and introductions made.

The minutes of the December 1, 2009 meeting minutes were approved with one minor change.

Commission Chair Elections

Commission Chair Solomon was nominated, it was seconded and he was re-elected to Chair unanimously.

Commission Vice Chair Griffin was nominated, it was seconded and she was re-elected to Vice Chair unanimously.

Communication from Staff Liaison

Due to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room being used as additional office space, we have been forced to move the meetings for the next couple of months. The availability of rooms is very limited. Therefore, the meetings for February and March will be at 7:30pm at City Hall in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room. The website will be updated.

Erin Hickey of the Mayor's Office is interested in coming to an upcoming meeting; however, she has another meeting that goes until 8:00pm. Since the next couple of meetings are at a later time, this will be more convenient to schedule her to attend the next meeting. We will plan on inviting Erin to the March meeting. Staff Liaison will contact Erin with the invitation.

Commissioner Thomas has resigned his position. Alternate Mariahm Stephenson has agreed to accept the open position and her nomination will be proposed to City Council. Staff Liaison is working on finalizing the changes to the bylaws which will allow Alternates to be counted as a part of the quorum and to vote at HRAC meetings where a Commissioner is absent.

No Hearings

Project Updates

**Subcommittee Reports:**

Creative Expression Contest:

Commissioner Griffin advised that press releases and flyers will be submitted as needed. She advised that the schools need to be notified by noon on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. She requested an image of Commissioner Harburg's HRAC image/artwork. She further requested that the flyers be printed on light green paper for this year. The artwork and writing will be printed in black.

Commissioner Griffin mentioned an April 2011 event which is for students teaching other students about differences/diversity (Sharing Differences Event).

Outreach:

Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian is scheduled to speak at the February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting at 8:00pm. Commissioner Griffin will follow-up with Mr. Avakian.

Chair Solomon will attend a meeting this month with the Washington County Human Rights Committee. They will be addressing the issue of prisoner's privacies being taken away/violated.

Commissioner Griffin continues to be on a committee to discuss the THPRD/Nike Grant for Latino soccer. They are meeting once a month.

The Martin Luther King, Jr celebration will take place January 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at Cedar Hills United Church of Christ. Last year's winners from the Creative Expression Contest will read their poems. The Commission will set up a table at this event. Commissioner Cornelius will need the most recent PowerPoint presentation so we can have it available. Commissioner Solomon recommended that the Staff Liaison make 9 copies of the PowerPoint presentation so each commissioner can have a copy.

Diversity Award:

Staff Liaison will need to send out the letters to the winners ASAP (this week) and order the awards. The awards will be the same as the last couple of years. Winners names will be announced at the February 1 City Council meeting.

2010 Subcommittee Membership:

Diversity Award – Commissioners Harvey (Chair), Stephenson and Auslander  
Outreach – Commissioners Solomon (Chair), Healy and Brown  
Creative Expression – Commissioners Griffin (Chair), Harburg and Cornelius

Miscellaneous/New Business:

Commissioner Brown is working with Community Action regarding poverty and human rights. Tentatively, they will be invited to provide a guest speaker for the April meeting.

Commissioner Harvey will attend an organizational meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup> for the 2010 Census. Commissioner Harvey will send out an email to the commission regarding the specifics of the meeting.

Commissioner Solomon asked that the updated commissioner list be provided to the commission. Staff Liaison will update and email to the commission.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.