

**HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
October 6, 2009, 2009**

Present: Commissioners Alton Harvey, Blair Thomas, Daniel Brown, David Harburg, Debra Healy, Judith Auslander, Esther Griffin, Rob Solomon, Alternate Commissioner John Cornelius and Staff Liaison Nancy Bates

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

The minutes of the September 1, 2009, meeting minutes were approved.

Communication from Staff Liaison

Staff Liaison answered the Commission's question regarding how Alternate Commissioner John Cornelius is converted to a regular Commissioner with the resignation of Commissioner Christy Scott. The City Attorney recommends that the process be accomplished during the regular selection of Commissioners, which starts this month and selections are announced in December.

The Commission wishes to amend its by-laws regarding the voting rights of alternate commissioners. The objective is to allow actively participating alternate commissioners to be able to make up a quorum and be able to vote when a meeting is lacking enough regular commissioners to make a quorum. A motion was made to ask City Council to approve the amendment to the HRAC by-laws, and Commissioner Solomon will draft an amendment for Staff Liaison to send to Council.

Staff Liaison received a phone message regarding the "Hate Crimes" meeting in which a Beaverton citizen, who was unable to attend the meeting, wanted to express concern about the appearance of more frequent harassment of bi-racial children by members of minority groups, e.g., children of a white parent and a black parent being pressured by black children to disassociate with white children.

No Hearings

Project Updates

Subcommittee Reports:

Outreach: Commissioner Solomon reported that this effort will have greater emphasis on educational opportunities for the public.

Diversity Award: Commissioner Thomas presented a press release draft and asked the Commissioners to review the release and give feedback. Extra brochures were distributed to each commissioner with the expectations that Commissioners will take these to their favorite shops for distribution. It was suggested that the brochures also be handed out at the next Beaverton Chamber of Commerce Coffee Connection. The release needs to go out by November 1st or earlier. Nominations for the Diversity Award are due on November 20.

Creative Expression Contest: Commissioner Griffin indicated that the subcommittee is waiting to send out any communication to the schools until after the Diversity Award communications go out.

Miscellaneous Business:

Agenda Items for November meeting:

Speakers for future meetings, e.g., Brad Avakian, Labor Commissioner, regarding discrimination—invite for December meeting?

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30p.m. to allow for the special guest, Special Agent Mike Caputo from the FBI to talk about hate crimes. Approximately 15 guests from Beaverton and Portland attended along with the eight HRAC Commissioners.