

**HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
March 10, 2009**

Present: Commissioners Esther Griffin, Rob Solomon, David Harburg, Blair Thomas, Judith Auslander, Christy Scott, Frank Monfared, and Staff Liaison Nancy Bates

Absent: Commissioners Alton Harvey, Daniel Brown, and Council Liaison Catherine Arnold

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.

The minutes of the February 10, 2008, meeting were approved with minor corrections.

Communication from Staff Liaison

Staff Liaison reported information regarding the press release for the Creative Expression contest. While the press release was posted later than desired, the impact did not seem to affect the number of entries. Because of the outreach to the schools, recreation centers, and particularly social studies teachers, the Commission received 100 entries.

Business cards were distributed.

Information regarding other meetings of the City's Boards and Commissions were presented so that the HRAC could decide on a different meeting night. The decision was that the Commission would change the meeting day from the second Tuesday of each month to the first Tuesday, pending availability of conference rooms.

No hearings.

Project Updates

Human Rights Advisory Commission Outreach Sub-Committee: The following items were discussed:

1. The sub-committee would like to see the Human Rights Advisory Commission meetings announced to the media, similarly to what other Boards and Commissions post in the Beaverton Valley Times.
2. The sub-committee would like to work with the Public Information Manager and talk about a process for sending out press releases, i.e., a procedure for disseminating information to the media. The committee is asking the Staff Liaison to bring back the current process of how press releases are currently put out to the media.
3. The committee would like to put together a speaker's bureau composed of HRAC Commissioners to speak to community groups, e.g., churches, neighborhoods, other groups. The content of the standardized message from each speaker is about the HRAC—who we are and what we do. Part of this effort would be for the Commission to create flyers, add information to the website, and other kinds of advertising to encourage groups to invite a presentation. A motion to activate items 1-3 was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Creative Expression Contest:

Commissioners were urged to build relationships with representatives of the media and other networks to make sure important information is disseminated to the community.

One hundred entries were received, and the Commissioners viewed the originals from elementary school, middle school and high school entrants. After the meeting adjourned,

Commissioners spent the rest of the evening reviewing CD's, movies, essays, poems, and artwork.

The Commission will send a thank you card to the teachers that were highly supportive of the contest. Those teachers are Ms. Huber and Ms. Kendall.

It was suggested that the Commissioners who were absent or did not stay and watch the videos make arrangements to view them at City Hall before the next HRAC meeting on April 7th. In the future, efforts will be made to make additional copies of the CD's and DVD's for the Commissioners.

Other Miscellaneous Business

Esther Griffin reported that she spoke with the film teacher at Southridge High School about students who may be interested in doing a project with the HRAC. The teacher will put it out to the students next term, and Esther will follow up.

Rob Solomon met with Marilyn Johnson, Staff Liaison for the City of Salem Human Rights Advisory Commission. Originally Ms. Johnson was unable to meet with the City of Beaverton's HRAC due to Salem's HRAC meeting on the same evening; however, with the pending change of meeting day, she will be re-invited.

Motion to adjourn official business seconded and passed at approximately 7:48 PM.