

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

April 2, 2014

Present: Commissioners Farrah Chaichi, Damarise Davis, Jeni Felker, Esther Griffin, Griffith Masters, Anna Petrov, Sheri Struk, Jamal AbuSneineh, Alternate Commissioners Kim Lawler, Victor Mena, and Shannon Younce, City Council Liaison Ian King and City Staff Liaison Bob Crocker

Absent: Commissioner Juanita Villarreal, Alternate Commissioner Mary Anne Harmer, Ex-Officio Police Chief Spalding.

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. Minutes of the March 5, 2014, meeting were reviewed and approved as amended. Commissioner Petrov moved to approve and Vice Chair Struk seconded. Passed.

Communications from the City Staff Liaison: Bob Crocker was informed at the most recent Boards and Commissions staff meeting that since campaign season has begun to remind commissioners to review the rules regarding the restrictions around campaigning at meetings.

Mr. Crocker reminded the commissioners of the following:

1. That the bylaws are regularly reviewed and for the commission to review the bylaws and submit any proposed changes. Chair, Esther Griffin, and Vice Chair, Sheri Struk, will review the bylaws and if any of the commissioners also wish to review them and submit changes, to do so within one week.
2. City Council requests an annual report in December about what each commission has focused on and accomplished for the year.
3. When the commission is recruiting for new members to really think about who is being targeted and whether or not those people best represent the mission of the commission.

Mr. Crocker informed the commissioners that during the week of April 7th all commissioners will be receiving a survey, via e-mail, with questions about what commission the commissioner serves on, how long they've been serving, and a review of the city staff liaison.

Communications from the City Council Liaison: Councilor King provided a review of the City Council meetings that were held on March 18, 2014 and April 1, 2014. He informed the commission that the City Council discussed doing a Fair Housing Proclamation and provided updates regarding the medical marijuana dispensaries. Legislative Bill 1531 was passed which meant that the city now has clear procedures as to whether or not they can/cannot ban dispensaries. The passing of the Bill means that the city cannot ban having a dispensary. The city can initiate a temporary moratorium for up to one year. Councilor King stated that the city's prior moratorium is no longer valid and will need to be revised. The city now needs to make a decision as to how long to make the moratorium; once a date is chosen it cannot be lengthened, but it can be shortened.

Communications from Police Chief Spalding: Chief Spalding was absent, and therefore, there was no report made.

Guest Speaker: Melissa Nourigat came to speak to the Commission about April being International Child Abuse Prevention Month. She is part of a team that is looking to start the awareness of the Children's Trust Fund of Oregon's "Pinwheels for Prevention" program in Beaverton and Portland. She informed the Commission about the *Pinwheels for Prevention*. Ms. Nourigat is hoping to get Beaverton involved in 2015 since it's too late to begin this year. Commissioner Griffin suggested that the Commission could ask the Mayor to make a proclamation about this next April. She asked Ms. Nourigat to provide the proclamation wording to the Commission by December 2014.

Reports from Meetings/Events Attended: Nine of the commissioners attended the scheduled tour of the Beaverton Police Department, which was led by Officer Adam Spang. Those who were present on the tour were able to view the Department and where operations take place, such as the evidence room, victim interview rooms, holding cells, locker rooms, and the community room, to name a few. Questions were asked about issues regarding communications with community members who speak other languages. When English is not spoken by the person encountered, officers are able to call a translator line to assist in helping both the officer and the person involved in an encounter, whether it be a situation within the department, such as a victim, or a situation out in the field, such as a domestic violence call. The police department is planning to move its operations to a larger location due to the structure of its current location – being that City Hall is not a public service building. In addition, the City currently spends \$140,000 per month in rent for the other areas of the police department that are not on-site.

The Diversity Advisory Board Liaison, Alternate Commissioner Mary Anne Harmer was absent, and therefore, no report was given.

Commissioner Griffin reported on the last Washington County Human Rights Council meeting. The Council is working on a survey/ report card for Washington County and seeking to gain connections with diverse groups in the county to distribute the survey. The Council wants to identify the three main issues that arise within specific minority communities in Washington County. Hillsboro and Tigard Police officers were present at the meeting and stated that they have been holding community information groups in order to discuss issues and concerns in greater depth with community members in minority populations. The Council is wanting all diverse community members to be a part of helping identify issues and become involved regardless of citizen status. There is some brainstorming about holding a possible networking event for survey participants, local governments and service providers to meet and become involved with one another. The Council is also looking into possibly developing an Advisory Board consisting of Mayors and City Council members.

Project Updates:

Human Trafficking: Commissioner Masters is working on setting up a meeting with the Beaverton Police officer who is assigned to working on trafficking issues within the city.

Creative Expression Contest (CEC): The Commissioners voted for their first place and two runner up winners in each category of entries – elementary, middle school, and high school.

Elementary School:

- First place: "I Wanted to Change the World" (painting) by Kayla Rodrigues from Arco Iris Spanish Immersion Charter School, fifth grade.
- Runner-up: "Reaching for our Rights" (mixed media art work) by Mrs. Krueger's fifth grade class from Sexton Mountain Elementary School.
- Runner-up: "Human Rights" (poem) by Nikhar Khamesra from Elmonica Elementary School, second grade.

Middle School:

- First place: "Human Rights" (video) by Grace Tran from Stoller Middle School, seventh grade.
- Runner-up: "In a Perfect World" (essay) by the MAPS Club from Mountain View Middle School, sixth through eighth grades.
- Runner-up: "Noise" (essay) by Juliette Ball from Mountain View Middle School, eighth grade.

High School:

- First place: "Sword Hangs Over Our Heads" (essay) by Sadaf Khan from International School of Beaverton, tenth grade
- Runner-up: "Letter to Father" (essay) by Samantha Bowen from International School of Beaverton, tenth grade
- Runner-up: "We Are All Human" (poster) by Vicki Lee from Southridge High School, eleventh grade

All students who submitted an entry will be contacted by letter and informed of whether or not they were chosen as a winner. All participants, regardless of where they placed, will be invited to attend the Reception and Awards Ceremony on May 6th starting at 6:00 p.m. City Hall.

Procedures for Handling Citizen Complaints: Commissioner Davis reported that she is working on procedures. She will e-mail the other commissioners on the committee to schedule a time to meet and review the progress.

Miscellaneous Business: Commissioners were reminded of the FBI presentation at the May 7th Human Rights Advisory Commission meeting. Supervisory Special Agent Matthew Floyd will be present to speak about hate crimes and human trafficking. The presentation is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at approximately 8:30 p.m., including a question and answer period.

The progress of the upcoming Cultural Conversations for the transgender community was discussed. Commissioner Chaichi will follow up with the person she had previously contacted. A panel of speakers is preferred, so further outreach is needed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Felker; seconded by Commissioner Chaichi. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.