

**HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

January 7, 2015

Present: Commissioners Farrah Chaichi, Anna Petrov, Cesar Maldonado, Jamal AbuSneineh, William Encinas, Alternate commissioners Crystal Ashton, Manijeh Mehrnoosh and Eleazar Martinez, City Council Liaison Marc San Soucie, Ex-officio Police Chief Spalding, and City Staff Liaison Carmin Ruiz.

Guests: Carly Berkey

Absent: Commissioners Juanita Villarreal and Vice Chair Sheri Struk

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes of the December 3, 2014 HRAC meeting were reviewed and approved as amended. Alternate Commissioner Mehrnoosh moved to approve and Commissioner Petrov seconded. Passed.

Communications from the City Council Liaison: Councilor Marc San Soucie is our new liaison, he introduced himself to the Commissioners, and clarified the processes involved in beginning and completing the Creative Expression Contest.

Communication from the Ex-Officio Police Chief Spalding: Chief Spalding introduced himself to our new members and responded to Commissioner Ashton's comments and suggestions.

Communications from the City Staff Liaison: Ms. Ruiz announced that the position of Chair remained empty, and that we should consider timely election of a new Chair. We were reminded to familiarize ourselves with parliamentary procedures. She also plans to provide us with planning and structure and will provide us with individuals to help us in that area.

Human Rights Award – Reception and Awards Presentation: The Human Rights Award will be presented to the community service organization, Second Home, on Tuesday, January 13th at the regular City Council meeting, and a reception will follow.

MLK Event (January 18, 2015 at Southminster Presbyterian Church): Vice Chair Sheri Struk and Commissioner Anna Petrov will represent HRAC at the MLK event. Their presentation includes discussing what HRAC is about; and announcing the recipient of the 2014 HR Award. They also will announce the beginning of the 2105 Creative Expression Contest and introduce two of last year's CEC winners, were Grace Tran with her video and Kayla Rodriguez with her painting and its backstory. A reception will follow.

Creative Expression Contest (CEC): The kick-off for the 2015 contest officially begins at the MLK Day event on January 18th and the contest will run through February 27th. The CEC flyer for Beaverton School District has been submitted, and permission has been obtained for distributing the flyer to individual schools.

Discontinuation of Human Rights Award – The Human Rights Award has ceased to draw interest among Beaverton residents. This involves a lot of time on the part of commissioners seeking to find appropriate candidates. It was suggested, as it has been before over the past year, that this award be discontinued. Interest was expressed in doing this. Commissioner Petrov asked Commissioner Chaichi to make a motion. She so moved, Commissioner Petrov seconded, and the motion for discontinuation was unanimously passed.

Miscellaneous

Agenda items for February: These should include election of a new Chair and Vice Chair for 2015, and attendance at the annual HSAC retreat, as well as ongoing projects and other projects that the commissioners may choose to endorse.

Upcoming Speakers and Cultural Conversations: Suggestions were made regarding possible Cultural Conversations, including having a group of individuals of various religious faiths come to share with us their experiences.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner William Encinas and seconded by Commissioner Merhnoosh. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.