

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2016 at 6:30 PM

Meeting called to order: 6:30 pm

Present: Commissioners Jamal AbuSneineh, Farrah Chaichi, Isabella Irtifa, Cesar Maldonado, Marilyn McDonald, Phil Nagel, Anna Petrov, Sheri Struk, and Juanita Villarreal and Alternate Commissioners Tag Khuri and Sheila Sahu. City Council Liaison Marc San Soucie, City Staff Liaison Robert Crocker and Ex-Officio member Interim Police Chief Jim Monger.

Absent: None

Visitor Comment/Guests: Guests included Chase Adams, Mayor's Youth Advisory Board members, Deanna Palm from Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce, Cadence Moylan representing Affordable Housing in Beaverton, and Sharon Bernstein from Family Forward. (See last section for comments.)

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Chair AbuSneineh called for approval of minutes of the July meeting. Discussion followed. Commissioner Struk moved to approve minutes as revised; Commissioner Villarreal seconded, none opposed, motion made and carried unanimously.

Communication from City Staff Liaison

- City Staff Liaison Robert Crocker reminded the commissioners that fall recruitment for boards and commissions begins in September, and the last day for submitting an application is October 3rd.

Communication from the City Council Liaison

- Councilor San Soucie discussed issues concerning the sale of the club, "Stars Cabaret," to a new club called "Spearmint Rhino." He reminded the commissioners of some upcoming dates on the calendar to be aware of, including the second Night Market, on August 13th. Councilor San Soucie shared that during National Welcome Week (September 16th-25th), the Diversity Board is promoting economic opportunities, forming community partners, and supporting adult education, primarily ESL (English as a Second Language).

Communication from Interim Police Chief Monger

- Interim Chief Monger is Beaverton's new interim police chief. Commissioners introduced themselves to him. He outlined some plans that he and the police leadership are considering, including: continuing body cam testing, revising personnel tasks to promote a more realistic staffing profile, evaluation of patrol districts, officer numbers, shifts, etc. as well as ongoing contact with NACs. He discussed school boundary changes as well as aspects of relationships between the police and school administrations.

Reports from Meetings and Events Attended

- Washington County Human Rights Council - They have filed their 501 C3, and are in the process of writing and approving their bylaws.
- Diversity Advisory Board - No report from Diversity Advisory Board at this time. (Note comments above from Councilor San Soucie regarding Welcome Week activities.)

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Project Updates

- Communications/Outreach Subcommittee - A motion was made to approve the planned event. Gary Spanovich of the Wholistic Peace Institute was recommended to be the co-sponsor.

Guest Speakers – Name, representing/presenting/purpose etc.

- Sharon Bernstein, from Family Forward, was asked to meet with HRAC to share the mission and projects of Family Forward. This organization supports “social insurance” programs like unpaid sick time, which recently passed; fighting unfair wages and schedules, paid sick time and parental leave, and providing social support to women and families in stressful situations. She invited HRAC to follow up with her and learn more about the Family Forward programs.
- Cadence Moylan, working with Affordable Housing in Beaverton, discussed the challenges of providing affordable housing, problems that are based in both wage structure and demographic movement. She also shared the goals of the Planning Department in looking at budgeting concerns, developing a 5 year plan, and working to get money now to help alleviate the homeless problem.
- Mayor’s Youth Advisory Board – This City of Beaverton board is an organization of young people and works to plan events that invite youth perspective on issues. Opportunities were discussed that are available to youth, particularly homeless youth. Youth homelessness is one of several severe problems impacting youth, as well as health and mental health care, bullying, drug and alcohol use, and school/police relationships.
- Deanna Palm, Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce - Deanna joined us to have a chance to provide a rebuttal against Measure 97, a ballot measure that was presented by A Better Oregon, at last month’s HRAC meeting. Ms. Palm stated her position, provided paperwork pertaining to why HRAC members should not support this measure, and explained ways to combat it.

Motion: Commissioner McDonald moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Commissioner Maldonado. Vote taken, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Next meeting: September 7, 2016