

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

**May 4, 2011**

Present: Commissioners Alton Harvey, Daniel Brown, David Harburg, Esther Griffin, Jamila Kisses, Karen Redington, Maria Moreno, Rob Solomon, Alternate Commissioners Blair Thomas and Tresa Cavanaugh, and Staff Liaison Nancy Bates

Absent: Commissioner John Cornelius; Alternate Commissioner Heminder Singh

Minutes of the April 6, 2011, meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Kisses moved to approve and Commissioner Brown seconded. Passed unanimously.

Communications from the City Liaison: Staff Liaison notified commission that the Library Conference Room was reserved for the rest of the year starting at 6:30, except for August 3. It was decided that rather than start the meeting time at 7, the meeting be moved to the City Hall First Floor Conference Room.

The Commission asked the Liaison to send out a welcome letter to those visitors who put their name on the sign-in sheet, establishing a mailing list. It was also requested that the Liaison ask the publishers of "Your City" to correct the meeting time of the Commission. Your City shows 7p.m., and the meeting time is 6:30p.m.

The Liaison reminded Commissioners about the media training the City is sponsoring on Monday, May 23 from 5:30 to 6:45p.m. at City Hall in the First Floor Conference Room.

There was a discussion regarding the Creative Expression Contest Award Presentation Reception on May 17, food and beverage preference, and the display of the entries.

No hearings

Guest: Ronault "Polo" Catalani, attended the meeting to talk with the Commission about communication with immigrant communities in Beaverton. Mr. Catalani is an attorney and a journalist who writes for the "Asian Reporter" and an Hispanic newspaper. He works for the City of Portland, managing their "new Portlander" program, which was initially developed for immigrants coming into Portland. Chair Solomon asked about what to give the media that will get the word out about the Human Rights Advisory Commission. Mr. Catalani talked about media being one way but face to face is more important. He suggested that the "better thing to do is to go where people are meeting already." "Go do their thing with them." He advised the Commission to "dress up..take gifts (handouts/flyers/etc.)...engage in their system." In addition, he suggested making sure the Commission knows what their "hot issues" are or the community will not know what to do with the Commission. He reminded us that newsprint is failing and that social media is taking over. However, he also suggested focusing on the Community Page, where contributors can write their own stories; and one can post almost anything on the electronic version of the Community Page.

Committee Reports

Housing Committee/Youth Homeless Issues: Commissioner Redington filled in for Commissioner Harvey and reported on the meeting she attended. The group is working on creating a shelter.

Mayor's Task Force/International Date: Commissioner Redington indicated that applications are ready to be sent out. The City is beginning community meetings with ethnic communities to get the word out and get people on an e-mail list.

Diversity Task Force: The Task Force is partnering with the Center for Intercultural Organizing (CIO) to get a survey, i.e., needs assessment, out to immigrants and will present results to the City Council in June. The Commissioners requested a copy of the survey, and Commissioner Redington indicated she will send it out. The Task Force also completed a resource guide in eight languages, and it is doing a feasibility study for a multicultural center.

After the speaker, discussion continued regarding changes to the Human Rights Award nomination form on the website. Commissioner Moreno shared changes and will continue to edit the form and bring back those changes to the June meeting.

Miscellaneous Updates:

Chair Solomon gave an update regarding a meeting with Senator Merkley's at his downtown Portland office in April. He indicated that the Senator is supportive of the Washington County Human Rights Council. He also reported that on Thursday, September 22 at 6:30p.m. there is an Immigration Debate at Pacific University.

Commissioner Kisses reported on the proposed changes to the Creative Expression Contest for 2012 that was shared in an e-mail. Two issues are: (a) Find a way to display the submissions to the public. The HRAC would like a binder with all entries be put on display at City Hall on May 18, the day after the presentation of awards. The Commission is also recommending the Public Information Officer post this information on the Facebook page. (b) it is recommended that there be opportunity to share and dialogue about why Commissioners choose the entries they would like to see win the contest. It is suggested that the Commission reserve a regular meeting and devote most of the meeting to the selection process or have a separate special meeting. It was also suggested that speakers not be scheduled during that meeting. Typically the March meeting is when the Commissioners receive the entries and the April meeting is when they vote and share why they made their selections. This was agreed in consensus by the committee.

It was reported that there will be a reception for the Creative Expression Contest before the City Council meeting in which awards are presented. Tuesday, May 17, at 6p.m. in the first floor conference room.

Legislative Subcommittee Update. Commissioner Brown would like the name of the City's lobbyist. He is looking for someone that would keep the Human Rights Advisory Commission up to date on potential issues that could affect human rights in Beaverton. Action Item: Staff Liaison will find out if the Commission can make that contact.

Chair Solomon reported that he attended a meeting of the Citizens with Disabilities Advisory Commission; however, he was unable to speak and that opportunity will be rescheduled.

Human Rights Advisory Commission Brochure. There was discussion regarding the quotes and the content that will be used. Chair Solomon suggested voting on the final brochure at the June Meeting.

A reminder was given regarding the play that the HRAC is sponsoring: "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Well-Being" will take place at the Beaverton City Library on Wednesday, May 25, 2011, from 5:30 to 7p.m. It is free of charge.

Future Guest Speakers. Chair Solomon gave an update about getting a list of potential speakers. The desire is to have mostly ethnic groups represented for now.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM. Agenda items that were not addressed at this meeting will be on next month's agenda.

