

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES

Thursday, April 28, 2011

I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda

Members Present: Bixson, Blomberg, De Anda, Leyva, Privateer, Pamperin (ex officio), Wolk (Council Liaison)

Members Absent: Clinton, Plank

Blomberg requested that Commission discuss recap of Council direction at joint meeting. Stachowicz suggested that commissioners make their comments during the communications section.

Blomberg moved, with second by Privateer, approval of agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes –

Privateer noted changes to Mel Lewis' comments for March 24, 2011 minutes. Bixson moved, with second by Blomberg, approval of minutes, as amended Motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment and Correspondence -

Stachowicz shared written correspondence sent to the commission by Mark Graham. Mr. Graham requested that the commission consider supporting a resolution to "bring war dollars home." Stachowicz explained that she received the correspondence after the agenda had already been posted and therefore, the commission could discuss only whether to place the item on a future agenda for review. Stachowicz also explained that the focus of the resolution is only partially related to the commission's mission to promote diversity and end discrimination.

Commissioners will consider the request and let staff know if one or more of them wish to include it on a future commission agenda.

IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements

Commissioners discussed the information shared with the Commission by City Council at the joint meeting of the two bodies. The Council concurs that the Commission should work with the business community to look for ways to prevent discrimination at local businesses and requested the Commission complete a diversity and discrimination report.

V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements

Councilmember Dan Wolk introduced himself and let the commission know he was the newly appointed Council liaison to the commission. Wolk spoke of his interest, first broached at the joint discussion between the Council and the Commission to incorporate days of service into MLK, Chavez events.

VI. Discussion/Action Items

1. Review of Thong Hy Huynh Nominations and Preparations for Events Honoring Thong Hy Huynh

Commissioners reviewed the applications received to date and asked about reopening the nomination period. De Anda moved, with a second by Bixson, to extend the nomination deadline to Thursday, May 12 and to hold a Special Meeting in May to review and finalize

recommendations to the City Council. Nominations will be accepted in all areas, but areas of particular interest include Young Humanitarian and Civil Rights Advocacy. Motion passed unanimously.

Several additional nominations were suggested, and if Commissioners wish to formalize those nominations (or ask someone else to submit a nomination), they must have something in writing to staff by the new deadline.

Stachowicz explained that she would need all the applications prior to the close of business on May 12 in order to prepare them for review at the Special Meeting.

2. International House October International Festival - Finalize Commission Participation
De Anda explained that he needed to circle back with Elisabeth Sherwin at the International House to determine an appropriate role for the commission to take. The commission members indicated they were still interested in playing a part in the event. Blomberg mentioned that I-House is sponsoring a pre-festival event later in May. He will send information about it to commissioners.

VII. Recaps

1. Cesar Chavez Day (April 2)

Stachowicz thanked the commissioners who helped organize the event. In spite of the cancellation of the original date, the event was a success.

2. United Nations Association Film Festival (April 9)

Stachowicz reported that, although the films were of high quality, the turnout was low. Because of cost to the city to acquire and show the films, the commission may want to consider a different route next year, should it want to host a film festival or show films relevant to the mission of the commission.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.