

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

City Hall Conference Room

23 Russell Blvd, Davis, CA.

6:30 pm

Voting Members:

Shelly Bailes

Lee Bixson

Arthur Clinton

Steven D. Lee

Najme Minhaj (Chair)

Ann Privateer

Vacant

Vacant (Alternate)

Ex Officio Members:

Saraf Nawar (Student)

John Pamperin (Faith-based)

Pamela Mari/Mel Lewis (DJUSD)

Rahim Reed (UCD)

Lt. Tom Waltz (Police Dept)

Vacant (ASUCD)

Council Liaisons

Stephen Souza

Lamar Heystek

Staff

Kelly Stachowicz

I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda (6:30)

Members Present: Bailes, Bixson, Minhaj, Privateer, Nawar, Pamperin, Lt. Waltz, Lewis,

Others: Stachowicz

Members Absent: Clinton, Lee

Staff explained that the District would not be able to present the Algebra item tonight and the item would be presented at a future meeting. Privateer moved and Bailes seconded a motion to approve the agenda with changes. Unanimous vote.

II. Approval of Minutes- July 24, 2008

Staff noted a correction to the minutes that the Commission was in favor of a NO on Proposition 8 position. Minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

III. Public Comment- None

IV. Announcements

Bailes- City Council unanimously approved resolution to oppose Prop. 8. Polls show “no” votes ahead but “yes” campaign hasn’t started yet.

Lewis- Because of staff changes and workload, DJUSD representatives will not be able to attend the HRC meetings every month. They will attend as needed and as often as they can.

Pamperin reported on his work with the Community Conversation.

Nawar- The high school Human Relations Committee is trying to get more community members to come. The regular meeting time is the 3rd Wed @ 2:30pm.

V. Staff Communications

Waltz-

- June 4th DHS had vandalism in bathroom (racial slurs). This was determined to be a hate incident, as it was not directed at an individual)
- G Street fight investigation has been concluded with one arrest. There may have been others involved, but Waltz doesn't think there is a trend in this case for hate crime. Waltz explained that orientations for bars and bar bouncers are very helpful. Commission felt that this would be helpful particularly when bouncers receive diversity training. Staff will check with Crime Prevention staff re: existing outreach to bars.

VI. Staff Discussions/ Action Items

- A. DJUSD Presentation on State Algebra Requirements - Item pulled
- B. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Planning
 - Staff explained that we need to start thinking about MLK Day Celebration now. Depending on how presidential election turns out, we could tie MLK Day into inauguration activities (which occur the day following MLK Day.)
 - Privateer would like to bring in the Community Conversation.
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 - Nawar- Black Student Union would like to do a skit. The Human Relations Committee at Davis High School would like to organize an essay contest/art contest. Commission had discussion about how kids could participate in the event. Commission gave consensus to allow Nawar to pursue ideas for youth to participate.
 - Minhaj- Form subcommittee in October.
- C. United Nations Association Traveling Film Festival-
 - Commission discussed their role and involvement in planning the event. Staff suggested they form a subcommittee to work on it. Commission expressed a desire for a theme and a message. Suggestion was made to dovetail on the Campus Community Book. Privateer volunteered to help.
 - Commission requested that staff bring item back for additional discussion.

VII. Updates/Important Dates to Remember

- A. Celebrate UC Davis
 1. Commission wanted to discuss the possibility of having an HRC slogan, perhaps at the next meeting.

- B.** Public Safety Day- October 18th
 - 2. Held at Central Park during Farmers Market, will just be Davis P.D.

- C.** Community Conversation – November 15 at Davis High School
 - Nawar expressed concern that DHS teachers last year didn't know about Conversation. Lewis responded that teachers were informed. Privateer replied that part of the problem is that many teachers do not believe there is a problem. Lewis said that groups like this commission have a big task to get majority to understand. Lewis also reported that DJUSD working on the TAG Program (Targeted Assistance Groups) to help kids caught in the gap.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 pm.