



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, August 19, 2015
TIME: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
PLACE: Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2144 Pan American Road West, San Diego 92101
MEETING: Number 280

Call to order: 5:30 pm (*w/o quorum*)

Roll Call:

Commissioners in Attendance

Monica Bauer	Godwin Higa	Susan Thompson Tschirn, Vice Chair
Dolores Canizales	Keryna Johnson	Lillian Shallow, Youth Commissioner
Mark Dillion	Gagandeep Kaur	
Tiffany Harrison	Jessica Nare	

Excused Commissioners

Joel Trambley, Chair	Lorena Slomanson
Dion Brown	
Charles Gillig	
Shana Hazan	

Staff Present

Danell Scarborough, Executive Director
Denise Sandoval, Executive Assistant
Mike Giorgino, Deputy City Attorney
Arlene Nairn, Student Intern

WELCOME

Approve Minutes of July 15, 2015 Commission Meetings – Approved unanimously

Non-Agenda Public Comment: Non Agenda Public Comment Slips Received.

Mayor's Office Comment: Don Giaquinto, Director of Protocol, Mayors Office: Not Present

Recognition and Appreciation for Commissioners' Service:

- **Tiffany Harrison Service to the Commission for 8 years.**

ACTION AGENDA: (Materials provided)

New Business

1. Briefing on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the County Commission on the Status of Women.

Motion from Commissioner Jessica Nare to explore supporting CEDAW in San Diego, California by joining them via their formal process. There are requirements and they are as follows: Support of 4 cities, the commitment of 60 thousand dollars yearly, a gender analysis, funding, and an oversight body.

Seconded by Commissioner Mark Dillon

Discussion questions:

Vice Chair, Susan Thomson-Tschirn: Why has the United States not ratified the United Nations Convention of 1977?

Commissioner Mark Dillon: Are there other agencies that already collect the same information?

Vice Chair, Susan Thomson-Tschirn: Are there any opposing views?

Commissioner Godwin Higa: Is the National Organization of Women involved?

Commissioner Karyn Johnson: Can the City of San Diego do a gender analysis?

Vote: Aye 7 Nay 0 Abstention 0 Motion: Passes

A request was made by Commissioner Jessica Nare to invite CEDAW to give a presentation to HRC.

2. Consider support for name change for local school - Robert E. Lee Elementary School

Motion from Commissioner: Godwin Higa to support the changing of the name due to its reference to confederacy, which has had controversy since the shootings by a white male in a predominately African/American Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

Seconded by Commissioner Jessica Nare

Information provided regarding the process of naming a school.

Vote: Aye 7 Nay 0 Abstention 1 (Vice Chair) Motion: Passes

3. Consider support for Federal legislation – Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015

Motion from Commissioner Monica Bauer that a letter be sent to the Congressional Delegation in support of restoring the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015.

Seconded by Commissioner Dolores Canizales

Vote: Aye 9 Nay 0 Abstention 0 Motion: Passes

4. Review and approve proposed Standing Rule on Developing HRC Statements
(Materials provided)

There was discussion that included the following suggestions/recommendations:

- a. That an assessment be conducted.
- b. That guidelines be produced to develop statements regarding current issues and relevance to the Commissions work and the effects on the Community we serve.
- c. That the Community be given the opportunity to respond and comment.
- d. That the Mayor's Office not be forgotten prior to a press release. (No Surprises)
- e. That as much back up information be provided regarding the topic.
- f. Local issue or National issue.
- g. Purpose of the Statement.
- h. Have we already made a Statement regarding this topic?
- i. Time constraints, still an unfolding topic.
- j. The Deputy City Attorney advised all to adhere to the Brown Act regulations and the Municipal Code (quorum)

A "DRAFT" plan for press releases will be provided to the commissioners and this topic will be next Action item Agenda for September.

Old Business

INFORMATION AGENDA

2015 Priorities/Committee Reports

- a. Annual Recognition Event – Partner Awards and Commendations
- b. Global Perspective – There is a meeting set up with the City and Charlie to discuss Friendship Park. Field Trip for the end of September to Friendship Park.
- c. Safe and Just Communities – Attended Restorative Justice Summit Meeting and the Summit should be moving forward in February or March.
- d. Equity
- e. Legislative Update – Arlene Nairn

Chair's Report – None

Executive Director's Report

Commission is hosting 2 U.S. Department of State International Visitors Delegations

- a. LGBT focus – August 20 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- b. Human Trafficking focus – August 26 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

- c. Update on gender neutral restrooms in City facilities.
 - a. These changes have started to take place in the park and recreation Department, they are starting to make all comfort stations single stall restrooms.
 - d. Proposing the Commission study a report by USC Professor Manuel Pastor: Linking Innovation with Inclusion: Demography, Equity, and the Future of San Diego.

Commissioners' Announcements:

Commissioner Godwin Higa – Black Lives Matter

Commissioner Gagandeep Kaur – September is Hunger Awareness Month

ADJOURN

Next Meeting will be September 16, 2015

Upcoming Events:

- Voices for Justice: Who Will Speak If We Don't Breakfast, Tuesday, November 17, 2015, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. , San Diego Convention Center
- Standing Together For Peace, Tuesday, November 17, 2015, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Jeremy Henwood Memorial Park, City Heights
- HRC Recognition Reception, Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Central Library

For further information contact: Danell Scarborough, Executive Director (619) 236-6420

