

**MINUTES
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2011**

Commissioners Present: Bruce Abrams, Joyce Singer Abrams, Mary Alcock, Gracia Molina de Pick (6:00 PM), Gary Lynn (6:10 PM), George Mitrovich, Roberto Shim

Excused: Mark Dillon, Tiffany Harrison, Shonee Henry, Mitz Lee

Absent: Nicole Murray Ramirez, Teresa Oyos,

Staff: Danell Scarborough, Executive Director; Pam Holmberg, Labor Relations

Chair Abrams called the 230th meeting of the City of San Diego Human Relations Commission (HRC) to order at 5:30 PM

- **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Roll Call

- **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

- **BUSINESS**

Old Business

1. Review of Commission's 2011 Priority Issues and Work Plan

a. Hate Motivated Behavior

The Commission will continue its participation in the San Diego Unified School District Anti-Bullying Task Force. The sub-committee would like to invite the students who reported to the Commission on the campus climate at UCSD to come back to provide an update. They would like to encourage those who appoint members to the Commission to search for a member of the Muslim community to help add a different perspective and resource.

b. Immigrant Rights and Reform

Most of the members of the Immigrant Rights and Reform sub-committee are also active members of SDIRC. They will continue to work with SDIRC and use information gathered to educate others. They would like to take the lead in educating the Mayor and Council on Immigration issues.

c. Educational Disparities

The Educational Disparities sub-committee has not had a chance to meet. They will plan to meet next week and return to the Commission with their recommendations next meeting.

d. Homelessness

The Homelessness sub-committee would like to have at least one Commission meeting focus on Homelessness. At that meeting they would like to invite speakers from the Regional Task Force for Homeless San Diego and the United Way to share information. They would like to invite the Councilmembers to the meeting and also meet with them to discuss their concerns and how to reach out to

homeless families and children. There are a few events coming up (Stand Down, Sleepless in San Diego) that they would like to partner with and show their support. Next year they would like to host a night of information and discussion on homelessness to be held at City College.

e. Outreach and Advocacy

The Commission will continue its outreach and advocacy as in the past.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Alcock to approve the April 20, 2011 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lynn. The motion passed unanimously.

Redesign of Commission logo and website

The Commission considered a list of questions that could help them communicate their ideas for a new logo. They will provide the artist with more guidance, including the Mission Statement plus the look of the City's corporate brand. They would like the logo to be round, clearly shows the Commission's name and something that would look at home within the City's brand.

New Business

Chair's Report

Chair Abram is working with the National Conflict Resolution Center (NCRC) to see if he can secure free services for the Commission. He would also like to get training for the Commissioners so they could serve as mediators on future issues. Commissioner Mitrovich has a relationship with the director. He will also approach them about assisting the Commission and scheduling a meeting to discuss the request.

Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Lynn attended the 40th anniversary celebration of the Southern Poverty Center in Montgomery, Alabama. It was an education and powerful event and it was great to see the program first hand. The program has many free education resources. Commission Lynn also attended the Cultivating Food Justice event at the community garden in City Heights. The event featured training session on gardening and was well attended by the community.

Commissioner J. Abrams suggested that the Commission add an adjunct youth member, perhaps a high school student. She thought it would be a great educational experience and would also add a different perspective to the Commission.

The Commissioners asked the Executive Director to urge the Mayor's office to fill the vacant seats on the Commission.

- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Diversity Day at the Children's Museum "Dig our Difference", June 26

Executive Director Scarborough invited the Commission to participate in the Diversity event at the Children's museum. The Commission is one of the sponsors of the event.

Future Meetings

Executive Director Scarborough led a discussion of the meeting place and subject of meetings for the rest of the year. The Committee room in the City Administration Building is available on some of the meeting dates if they wish to have a change of venue. It was decided that the Commission would meet there once or twice a year. The six remaining meetings of the year will feature a meeting for each sub-committee with speakers to share information on those specific subjects. The sub-committee chairs will pick the speakers for their meeting. The remaining two meetings will feature non-specific topic speakers.

Executive Director Scarborough asked the Commissioners to please communicate their availability to attend meetings to her at least one week before the meeting. Knowing who will be able to attend helps the Executive Committee better plan the meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.