



MEETING MINUTES

Human Relations Commission

Thursday, November 20, 2003

6:30 p.m.

Veterans' Memorial Center Club Room

204 14th Street

Members:

Cecilia E. Greenwald, Chair Norb Kumagai
Katy Davidow, Vice Chair Hamza El-Nakhal
John Pamperin Diane Carlson (Alternate)
Bill Ritter Midori Wong (Youth)
Tansey Thomas Padraic Wheeler (Youth Alt.)
Carlos Matos

Staff:

Jim Antonen, *City Manager*
Sharen Bird, *City Manager's*
Office

Liaisons:

Mike Harrington, *Councilmember*
Ruth Asmundson, *Mayor Pro Tem* (Alternate)
Det. Paul Doroshov, *Police*
Steve Horowitz, *DJUSD*

I. Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 6:42 p.m. by Chair Escamilla-Greenwald

Present: Cecilia Escamilla Greenwald, Katy Davidow, John Pamperin, Bill Ritter, Tansey Thomas, Carlos Matos, Hamza El-Nakhal, Diane Carlson, Midori Wong, Jim Antonen, Sharen Bird, Det. Paul Doroshov, Steve Horowitz, Rahim Reed

Absent: Norb Kumagai, Padraic Wheeler, Mike Harrington, Ruth Asmundson

Also Present: Jim Hyde, Davis Police Chief, Jerilyn Cochran, Social Services Administrator, Davis resident Neil Henry, Davis resident Eileen Samitz, Angela Pang, UCD journalism student, Human Relations Commission applicant Mary Stroud.

II. Approval Of Agenda

B. Ritter moved, seconded by C. Matos, to approve the Agenda as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. October 23, 2003

Commissioners reviewed written corrections submitted by N. Kumagai. Roll Call, grammatical and typographical changes were noted, and the wording of Item X., Review of Human Relations Commission Long-Range Calendar, was changed to read as follows:

Chair Escamilla-Greenwald polled the Commissioners to determine the best date and time for holding a special meeting in the next week for consideration of a draft letter to UCD from the City Council in

support of U.C. Davis Police Officer Calvin Chang. The Chair and Commissioner Kumagai will work together to provide the necessary statistical and demographic information relative to the issue.

Consensus was reached that Wednesday, October 29 at 7:00 p.m. would be the most convenient time to hold the meeting. Officer Chang related that he would welcome the support. The Chair asked city staff to obtain a meeting room.

B. Ritter moved, seconded by T. Thomas, approval of the Minutes of the meeting of October 23, 2003, as corrected. Motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: C. Escamilla-Greenwald, J. Pamperin, B. Ritter, T. Thomas, C. Matos, D. Carlson, M. Wong

Noes: None

Abstain: K. Davidow, H. El-Nakhal

Absent: N. Kumagai, P. Wheeler

B. October 29, 2003 – Special Meeting

Commissioners reviewed written corrections submitted by N. Kumagai. Minutes heading, grammatical and typographical changes were noted, and the wording indicating the unanimous vote concerning the proposed letter regarding diversity, recruitment and retention policies of the UCD Police Department was re-formatted to reflect the vote breakdown

B. Ritter moved, seconded by H. El-Nakhal, approval of the Minutes of the Special meeting of October 29, 2003, as corrected. Motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: C. Escamilla-Greenwald, J. Pamperin, B. Ritter, T. Thomas, H. El-Nakhal, D. Carlson, M. Wong

Noes: None

Abstain: K. Davidow, C. Matos

Absent: N. Kumagai, P. Wheeler

IV Public Communication and Announcements

A. Oral Communications

Davis resident Neil Henry elaborated on the circumstances which prompted him to write the letter to the attorney of a juvenile vandalism/hate crime suspect (included in the Agenda packet). He said he is willing to participate in any way to pursue the matter. He said he is deeply concerned about this and similar instances of hate crimes that have not been fully addressed by the community. H. El-Nakhal suggested that the Commission hold a special meeting regarding the trend signified by the Neil Henry and North Davis residence hate crimes. Following discussion, B. Ritter moved, seconded by H. El-Nakhal, that the Commission hold a special meeting on Wednesday, December 17, 2003, to

address the issues of hate crimes, racism and homophobia in Davis. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Escamilla-Greenwald appointed an ad hoc subcommittee consisting of J. Pamperin, M. Wong and H. El-Nakhal, with D. Carlson as the Chair, to prepare for and perform outreach efforts for that meeting.

B. Written Communications.

1. Minutes of October 14, 2003 City/UCD Student Liaison Commission relating to that Commission's recommendation regarding the city's Open Container Ordinance.
Informational.
2. Letter from Davis resident Neil Henry regarding prosecution of acts of juvenile vandalism in West Davis.
Refer to Item IV. A. 1. above.
3. E-mail from the No on Proposition 54 Campaign thanking the Commission for its support in opposition to the ballot measure and noting that the No on 54 Executive Committee will be meeting in early December and will report back to the Commission of the outcome of that meeting.
Informational.
4. Letter from UCD Senior Vice Chancellor for Human Resources thanking the Commission for holding the Special Meeting of October 29 regarding the University's adherence to the Principles of Community.
Informational.
5. Letter from Davis resident Howard Zochlinski regarding the Special Meeting of October 29, 2003 and alleged acts of discrimination by UCD Administrators and Police.
Informational.
6. E-mail from Davis resident Jean Jackman advising of the Davis Friends of the Library participation in Tellabration! 2003 A World Wide Annual Storytelling Event and announcing Bob Matthews, a member of the World War II Tuskegee Airmen as one of the storytellers at a storytelling session scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Saturday November 22 and the Davis Library.
Informational.

V. Liaison Communications

A. Council Liaisons

No report.

B. Police Liaison

1. *P. Doroshov reported that the owner of Sophia's Thai Kitchen has agreed to participate in the city's Mediation Services program. R. Reed reported that Det. Lafond is making the arrangements.*

Chair Escamilla Greenwald said she referred an Aggie student reported to the Police Department regarding the student claims against Sophia's Thai Kitchen.

- 2. P. Doroshov reported that there was a hate incident involving battery at the AmTrak station on Sunday, November 2. He said the District Attorney is handling the matter.*

C. School District Liaison

- 1. S. Horowitz reported that one of DJUSD's administrators' meetings was devoted to a discussion of Gandhi's Way.*
- 2. S. Horowitz reported that DJUSD has chosen its top candidate for the half-time position of Coordinator of School Climate Activities and is waiting for the candidate's confirmation of availability .*
- 3. Marsha Ludwig reported that the School Climate Committees have all been re-established this school year and are conducting monthly activities. She said the first District Coordinating Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 3. S. Horowitz added that he will present a full report on recent DJUSD activities at the Commission's December 4, 2003 meeting.*
- 4. S. Horowitz reported that he attended a UCD Principles of Community meeting led by Rahim Reed.*
- 5. M. Ludwig reported that DJUSD held an in-service workshop last Saturday on AB537, the Safe School Legislation concerning gay, lesbian, transgender student rights.*
- 6. M. Wong reported that she and P. Wheeler are working with the School Climate committees.*
- 7. T. Thomas said she would be contacting S. Horowitz and M. Ludwig to work with them on issues of accommodating disabled students in the schools.*
- 8. T. Thomas suggested that the School District might become more involved with outreach on the Martin Luther King, Jr. event in the schools.*

D. UCD Liaison

- 1. R. Reed reported that UCD administrators held their first forum regarding issues raised at the Commission's special meeting of October 29. He said the forum covered three items: 1. Police diversity recruitment; 2. Sensitivity training; and 3. The climate at UCD. He said the next forum will concentrate on statistics of recruitment and retention at UCD. He said a third forum is being planned as the last in this series, but this is probably just the beginning for an ongoing series of forums.*

2. *R. Reed reported that plans for UCD's Principles of Community event are coming together. He suggested that the Commission could plan some activity to signify a joint reaffirmation of the Principles by the University, the School District and the City. He also suggested that the Commission might like to sponsor or host a program during the three days of the event. He said two general themes are: 1. Freedom of Expression (free speech); and 2. The Educational Value of Diversity .*

VI. Chair's Report

C. Escamilla-Greenwald reported that she, B. Ritter and other Commissioners had contacted the city's Mediation Services in an attempt to resolve some issues they had concerning recent Commission- and non-Commission-related activities by Commissioner Norb Kumagai. She said Commissioner Kumagai had declined to participate. B. Ritter elaborated on actions he and others considered to be inappropriate. Chair Escamilla-Greenwald appointed an ad hoc subcommittee on Commission Relations consisting of herself, J. Pamperin, D. Carlson and K. Davidow to review each contested action and report to the Commission at the next meeting. B. Ritter said he would provide the subcommittee with a "bill of particulars."

VII. Discussion/Action Items

- A. Proposed letter from Mayor to UCD for Council approval regarding cooperative effort for both agencies to operate in adherence to Principles of Community

Due to the lateness of the hour and as a courtesy to Social Services Administrator Jerilyn Cochran, it was the consensus of the Commission to discuss Item C. before Item B.

- B. Subcommittee Report on the draft Update of the 1989 Report on Racial Issues
D. Carlson briefly discussed the contents of the Report. She asked Commissioners to review the material to vote on at the next meeting.
- C. Report on Affordable Housing – Covell
Social Services Administrator Jerilyn Cochran gave a brief overview of the recent activities of the Affordable Housing Task Force. She said the goal is to update the Affordable Housing Ordinance, to clarify issues related to ownership of housing, and eventual revision of the Housing Element of the city's General Plan. She said the Task Force is considering issues of tenant selection, permanent affordability and preferences (for local employees and local residents). She said the Council has also added the dimension of middle-income housing availability.

She explained that the Covell Village development is planned to be permanently affordable, and at a recent meeting, Covell Village representatives described several approaches to accomplish this. She said the presentation was for information only. No particular approach has been decided upon. She advised the Commission that the next meeting of the Affordable Housing Task Force will be held on December 8 at 5:30 p.m. at the Davis Police Department.

Davis resident Eileen Samitz, representing "Citizens for Responsible Planning," pointed out several possible negative ramifications of Covell Village. She said it

contradicts the community's preference for slow growth by adding 250 units per year up to a total of 1,400 units in the area of Covell and Pole Line Road. She suggested that the land dedicated to affordable housing be used for limited equity co-ops only.

- D. Review of draft commendation letter from the HRC to Chief Hyde
B. Ritter moved, seconded by T. Thomas, approval of the letter commending Detective Dan Lafond for his efforts on behalf of the Commission and the community. The motion passed unanimously. The Chair then signed the letter for copies and distribution.
- E. Subcommittee report on planning for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event
This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- F. Report on feedback concerning a special joint commission meeting to review the Open Container Ordinance
This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- G. Procedures Subcommittee Report
 - 1. Report on Action Plan based on outcome of Commission Retreat meetings held in April
No report.
- H. Appointment of sub-committee for Cesar Chavez Day event
This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- I. Discussion of placement of City Clerk's Commissioner Handbook in the HRC Commissioner's Reference Manual
This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- J. Report on items to be framed for wall display in Community Chambers
This item was deferred to the next meeting.

VIII. Staff and Commissioner Communications

- A. Status Reports
 - 1. UCD Fall Book Project
This item was deferred to the next meeting.
 - 2. Hate Crimes Task Force
This item was deferred to the next meeting.
 - 3. HRC Annual Binders Photocopy Project
This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- B. Other Oral Communication
None.
- C. Written Communications

1. Letters exchanged by Chancellor Vanderhoef and Mayor Boyd relating to the appointment of Rahim Reed as UCD Liaison to the Human Relations Commission
Informational.

IX. Review of City Council Long-Range Calendar
Informational.

X. Review of Human Relations Commission Long-Range Calendar
This item was deferred to the next meeting.

XI. Next meeting date, time and location – **December 4, 2003– 6:30 p.m.**
LOCATION: Veterans’ Memorial Center Game Room, 204 14th Street

XII. Adjournment
Following a motion made by K. Davidow, seconded by D. Carlson and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 p.m.