



Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, November 10, 2015, 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 East Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

**Minutes
Human Relations Commission
November 10, 2015**

(MEMBERS) Present:

Hannah Auckland
Don Calender
Dino Castelli
Peter Hodgson
Isabel Hochhaus
Christopher Houk
Ira King Jr.
Jeanne Powers
Jay Scherotter

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Belinda Chiu
Armando Espinoza

Diversity Staff Present:

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Director

Guests Present:

Meeting convened at 6:05 P.M.

Commissioner Calender called the meeting to order as acting HRC Chair, and invited members of the public to address the Commission.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

No comments.

Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Minutes: HRC – September 8, 2015 Minutes (Motion Required)

September 8, 2015 HRC Commission Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Auckland to ACCEPT minutes.

Second by Commissioner Hodgson.

Minutes unanimously APPROVED.

Agenda Item 3 – Drone Impact – Dino Castelli

Commissioner Castelli introduced a discussion on the impact of drone use in the City of Tempe as a quality of life issue. Commissioner Castelli said he is concerned about the effect drone use may have in the Tempe Community and wondered if the HRC should create an official opinion on drone use. Commissioner Castelli then asked for other commissioner's opinions.

Commissioner King shared an example of drone use in Missouri, saying drone use could result in strong emotional reactions over concerns for invasion of privacy. Commissioner Houk expressed his interest in getting additional information from Tempe's Police Department and asked if there had been any drone issues in recent history. Commissioner Castelli said he would like to see something done before a drone issue occurs in Tempe.

Commissioners wondered if the Human Relations Commission was the most appropriate venue for an opinion regarding drone use. Commissioner Hodgson offered Tempe's Aviation Commission as a group that may be better suited for a drone use conversation. Commissioner Calender also offered Tempe's Neighborhood Advisory Commission as an additional resource.

Commissioner Auckland agreed and inquired about Commissioner Castelli's desired outcome with this conversation. Commissioner Castelli replied his main concern was a loss of privacy, adding that safety issues regarding drones would likely be addressed by the Federal Aviation Association (FAA). Commissioner Auckland expressed a hesitation for cities to deal with drones individually and would be more in favor of addressing drone use uniformly as a state. Commissioner Auckland suggested drone use might be a topic for the Arizona League of Cities and Towns to bring to the attention of the Arizona State Legislature.

Commissioner Houk commended Commissioner Castelli's passion and said privacy issues would fall into the HRC mission statement of "promoting mutual understanding and respect among the many groups of people who live, work and spend time in our community". Commissioner Houk suggested inviting a speaker to address drone issues at a future HRC meeting.

Commissioner Scherotter inquired if there was any evidence that citizens have recently voiced concerns over drone use. Rosa replied she was not aware of any current drone use complaints by the Tempe community. Commissioner Houk asked if historically different commission groups had united to tackle a specific concern. Rosa said that was not usually the case but that a joint effort had recently been suggested involving the Disability Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The consensus was that drone impact will be added to the December HRC agenda. Rosa will research drone issues by contacting the Aviation Commission, the Neighborhood Advisory Commission, the Tempe Police Department, Tempe's City Attorney office and lobbyists, as well as neighboring communities. Rosa will report her findings at the next HRC meeting.

Agenda Item 4 – Challenge Day Update – Jay Scherotter

Commissioner Scherotter passed out the updated volunteer lists and asked commissioners to review them for accuracy. Commissioner Scherotter explained they were currently in need of thirty-seven additional volunteers and asked commissioners for their suggestions. Commissioner Hodgson was asked to inquire with Teach America staff for volunteers. Commissioner Scherotter will check in with the schools next month to verify each school's volunteer numbers. The hope is to have the volunteer list solidified before the holidays.

Next Commissioner Scherotter reported that two school lunch donations have been confirmed leaving six schools in need of lunch assistance. Most Challenge Day programs ask the students to bring their own lunches so that is the backup plan if additional lunch donations cannot be obtained. Commissioner Hochhaus asked about looking at joint ventures such as monetary donations that could be utilized with a restaurant offering lunches at their cost. Commissioner Hochhaus also asked what could be offered in return to participating restaurants such as hanging their banners for advertisement. The consensus was that Commissioner Scherotter would initiate a discussion to formulate a plan for contacting potential restaurants before deciding to ask students to bring their own lunches.

Commissioner Scherotter reported that all corresponding Student Resource Officers (SROs) are committed to volunteering at their school's Challenge Day program. An agreement has been reached with Challenge Day administrators allowing the SROs to leave the Challenge Day program if an event occurs in which their presence is required.

Commissioner Scherotter said that water donations have not been confirmed and that commissioners may be asked to donate water for the school they have registered to volunteer.

Commissioner Scherotter said that representatives from the Scottsdale school district may participate as volunteers in the Tempe program to evaluate the possibility of bringing Challenge Day to Scottsdale schools.

Commissioner Scherotter is currently researching how the media can be involved. Challenge Day usually gives media access for only the last half hour of the program to protect anonymity. Commissioner Calender suggested EVIT and Tempe's Channel 11 as possible resources. Commissioners agreed the Challenge Day program was deserving of community attention. Rosa offered to set up a meeting with Commissioner Scherotter and the Tempe Media staff.

Rosa asked about creating a pre and post test for evaluating and tracking purposes. Commissioner Scherotter explained that Challenge Day already has an evaluation form in use. Commissioner Scherotter will speak with Challenge Day staff about having one for Tempe.

Agenda Item 5 – Unity Grant Update – Rosa Inchausti

Rosa reported the final Unity Grant reconciliation had been received. The total available for Tempe school diversity programming is \$48,134.64. Commissioner Hodgson reported the results of a Unity Grant planning meeting he recently attended with Commissioner Powers, Commissioner Chiu and Rosa. Commissioners suggested approximately half of the funding, \$16,000, be divided between the schools to encourage continuing Challenge Day club work. The remaining funds would be available for schools to apply via the RFP process. Commissioners recommended the process be more pro-active by including potential programming ideas and possible speaker suggestions. Rosa will confirm if specific speaker names can be offered.

In the past, a request had been received to expand the Unity Grants to middle schools versus only Tempe high schools. Now that the remaining funds have been determined to be in excess of the original approximation of \$32,000, maybe middle schools could be made eligible in the RFP wording.

The final consensus was to move forward by creating the RFP with the assistance of Commissioners Hodgson, Chiu and Powers.

Agenda Item 6 - Diversity Department Update – Rosa Inchausti

A. MLK Dinner Update – Saturday, January 16, 2016

Rosa reported that Ginny has been in contact with Challenge Day administrators about providing the keynote speaker for the MLK Dinner. The Challenge Day founders are unavailable but they will be suggesting alternative Challenge Day staff suggestions.

B. Commissioner Update

On Commissioner Espinoza's behalf, Rosa reported that he has accepted a position in Washington and will be moving soon. Commissioner Hodgson announced he will also be leaving at the end of the year, due to extensive travel plans. Voting for a new HRC Chair and Vice Chair will be conducted at the December meeting.

Commissioner Houk announced that after ten and a half years working in government, he has accepted a position in private practice working on employment issues.

Next HRC Meeting – December 8, 2015

**Motion made by Commissioner Hodgson to adjourn the meeting.
Second by Commissioner King
Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.**

Prepared by: Dee Hodson

Reviewed by: Rosa Inchausti

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Director