

Minutes Human Relations Commission December 5, 2017

Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 6:00 p.m., at the City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 E. Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Rochelle Johns
Carl Hermanns
Ira King, Jr.
Jeanne Powers
David Kader
Dino Castelli
Chris Houk
Beth Dietz
Amanda Lee Faustini
B. J. Ayers
Stefanie Garcia

(MEMBERS) Absent:

City Staff Present:

Ginny Belousek, Diversity Manager
Megan Hutchison, Diversity Executive Assistant

Call to Order

Chair Hermanns called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

No public appearances.

Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Minutes: HRC – November 7, 2017 Minutes (Motion Required)

MOTION: Commissioner Castelli moved to ACCEPT the minutes

SECOND: Commissioner King

DECISION: Minutes unanimously APPROVED

Agenda Item 3 – Council Response Memo

Ginny Belousek shared with the commission correspondence received from Councilmember Lauren Kuby. Councilmember Kuby thanked the commission for the memo they put forth to Council on November 7th regarding DACA.

Agenda Item 4 – Concerns

Chair Hermanns turned the floor to Commissioner Ayers. Commissioner Ayers stated that her concerns come from the commission's October meeting where a comment was made regarding dreamers losing their freedom. It bothered her that the comment was limiting and many other races and groups have experienced loss of freedom as well as loss of life. She would like the commission to recognize that we all matter and to be aware and more mindful as we move forward. She thanked the commission for offering her the opportunity to voice her concerns. Chair Hermanns clarified the comment in question was made during a discussion focused on dreamers but acknowledged the commission needs to ensure that they are consistently aware of challenges in all communities.

Agenda Item 5 - Diversity Office Update

Ginny updated the commission on the upcoming MLK Diversity Awards Breakfast. The award winners have been selected and she is in the process of contacting them. Commissioner Faustini asked about the speaker for the event. Ginny responded that the key note speaker would be Raveen Aurora. Commissioner Kader inquired about the event location. Ginny responded that the event will take place at the Marriott Tempe at The Buttes.

Ginny then gave an update on Challenge Day. The event was a success! Corona del Sol had to reschedule to April due to a suicide the day before the event. She then requested volunteers for the new date.

Ginny gave an update on the upcoming Unity Walk. The posters are ready and she will email them to the commission to distribute as desired.

Agenda Item 6 – Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Hermanns opened the floor for the nominations of Chair.

Commissioner Castelli nominated Chair Hermanns to remain as Chair.

Motion made by Commissioner Kader to approve Chair Hermanns as Chair Voted Unanimous

Chair Hermanns accepted the nomination

Chair Hermanns opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

Commissioner Castelli nominated himself.

Motion made by Commissioner Houk to approve Commissioner Castelli as Vice Chair Voted Unanimous

Commissioner Castelli accepted the nomination.

Agenda Item 7 – Acknowledge Outgoing Commissioners

Ginny Belousek handed out an engraved pen set to Commissioner Houk who will be departing the commission as of December 31, 2016. The remaining commissioners thanked Commissioner Houk for his support and legal expertise through the years.

Agenda Item 8 – Upcoming Meeting January 9, 2018

**Motion made by Commissioner Castelli to adjourn the meeting
Second by Commissioner Faustini
Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm**

Prepared by: Megan Hutchison

Reviewed by: Ginny Belousek