



Orange County Human Relations Commission

1300 S. Grand, Bldg. B, Santa Ana
7:00 PM, Thursday, May 11, 2017

MINUTES

PRESENT: Becky Esparza, Rabbi Steinberg, Sean Thomas, Dr. Kerry Reynolds, Elliot Singer, Mark Miller, Bekele Demissie, Dr. Chiarina Piazza, and Chief Mike Hamel

STAFF: Norma López, Don Han, Joyce Sanchez

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Chair.
2. Approve meeting minutes M/S/C approved the minutes
3. Dr. Kerry Reynolds reviews Commission monthly summary of activities and highlights Tustin PD & Youth Dialogue.

OPEN FORUM

The Vice Chair recognized guests, who introduced themselves, member of the public addressed the Commission:

- a. Susan Reese - read grand jury report from 2004-2005 regarding the importance of maintaining a Human Relations Commission and partnership with Nonprofit
 - Concluding the total collaboration between County & non-profit
 - Continue to support the Council
 - Pose to Commission that the County leveraged for nonprofit
- b. Ken Inouye – shared that there have been times that within the Commission there have been biases and difference of opinions but has always acted on behalf of the County. The Commission has always represented the Board of Supervisors & the County. He stated that it is necessary that Commissioners leave the hate at home and serve the County through this Commission with pure heart to serve everybody.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Consider support for OC Human Relations Council winning RFP bid
 - Vice Chair Steinberg stated that the Council and Commission partnership is needed and shared that the basis of the nonprofit's foundation is to support and expand Commission programs. Rabbi moved and proposed to write a simple letter that the Commission is in support of the funding and support the public-private partnership. After much discussion, Commission voted 7 to 4 in favor of sending a support letter to all Supervisors.
5. Commissioners tabled the approval of a Nominating Committee for next month.
6. Chair facilitated conversation around the Board of Supervisor amendments to the Bylaws through Resolution 15-099-15-106. M/S/C approved amended Bylaws.
7. Commissioner Miller proposed to approve letter to Supervisor Nelson regarding Homelessness issues and needs for permanent housing. Commissioners agreed that all Supervisors needed to receive this letter. Letter was approved by 10 votes to note, with Chief Hamel's abstention.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. Commission staff, Joyce Sanchez, reported on report on Tustin PD & Youth Dialogues.
9. Director's Report
 - Strategic Planning on hold
 - Hate Crime Report Launch – June 22nd
 - i. Historically – invite Council to give historical perspective about Hate Crime report

- ii. Bring one-pager for Commission to review 2016 hate crime data for approval
- iii. Hate Free OC Campaign Updates – updated outreach information
- iv. Commissioner Miller suggests to Commission to listen to staff commission about the work that they do.

10. Commissioners did not have any questions.

11. Update from OC Chiefs & Sheriff

- Chief Hamel shared that there has been much turnover in Chiefs department in the County. He proposed that soon Commissioners should come to Sheriff's meetings to present about the Commission's work.

12. Articles on Human Relations Issues

- Commissioner Singer reviews articles in packet.

13. OCSD Interfaith Council Update

- Vice Chair Steinberg shared that at the Sheriff's Interfaith Advisory Council there was a good group of diverse faith leaders but that most impactful outcome was the human story of a young man and what his life is like due to being undocumented.

14. Announcements from Commissioners

- Vice Chair Steinberg announced that Father Camel a Coptic Christian from Egypt will be speaking next Friday and everyone is invited.

15. Adjourn Commission Meeting at 9:35 P.M.