



Orange County Human Relations Commission

1300 S. Grand, Bldg. B, Santa Ana

7:00 PM, Thursday, September 14, 2017

MINUTES

PRESENT: Rabbi Rick Steinberg, Dr. Chiarina Piazza, Mike Hamel, Kim Toan Do, & Bekele Thomas

ABSENT: Michael Reynolds, Dr. Kerry Reynolds, Becky Esparza, Bekele Demissie, Mark Miller & Sean Thomas

STAFF: Norma López, Don Han, Joyce Sanchez

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by the Commission Chair and announced that there was no quorum thus meeting would be informational.
2. Commission Chair Rabbi Steinberg reviewed monthly activities and asked Commission Staff member, Joyce Sanchez, to share about Sherriff's Academy training, who shared that partnership with OCSD is strong. This academy is attended by cadets from different counties and can service up to 60 recruits.

OPEN FORUM

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

1. Daniel Bravo addressed the Commission and shared that he was brought to the U.S. at the age of 4 from Mexico. He is a beneficiary of the DACA program which has allowed him to attend school to earn his Bachelors. Additionally, he has been able to contribute to society through his employment with Orange County Congregation Community (OCCCO), which not only allows him to give back to his community but has offered financial stability for his family. His only memories are of growing up in Costa Mesa, CA, going to Goldenwest College, Orange Coast College, and Cal State Fullerton. He stated that the U.S. is the only home he knows, like all the other Dreamers who have benefit from DACA, and asked the Commission to please issue a statement in support of Dreamers.

INFORMATION ITEMS

3. Commission staff, Don Han, shared that he had participated in the Hate Crime Network meeting that took place on Tuesday, 9/12 where he shared the 2016 hate crime data and provided hardcopies of the 2016 Hate Crime report. A follow-up Hate Crime Network meeting has been set for January 16, 2018.
4. Director's Report
 - o Director Lopez shared that John Becknell would be conducting a survey and calls this month. Additionally, a special meeting would need to be help in other to accommodate the Commission's strategic planning process in the month of November. A memo will be issued at the October meeting.
 - o Commission staff, Don Han & Norma Lopez, will be attending a weeklong POST certification training in order to be able to conduct training at Sherriff's Academy.
 - o The OC Human Relations shared a flyer for their upcoming Walk in My Shoes event on November 17th at CSUF
5. Commissioner Hamel's only update is that Dave Hendricks is the newest Fullerton PD Chief.
6. Commissioner Demissie highlighted that DACA is a human issue and cannot be ignored. It is important to focus on the civil society needs, not political agendas, and help resolve the issue in order to protect the DACA recipients. Additionally, due to the crisis around the homelessness issue, Commissioner Demissie has requested that a the October meeting the Commission appoint him as a representative of the Commission to participate in efforts and partnership events/meetings around this issue.
7. Commission Vice-Chair announced and congratulated Commission Chair, Rabbi Steinberg, for a great interview with NPR radio regarding hate crimes in Orange County and the newly released 2016 Hate Crime report.
8. Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:36 P.M.