



Orange County Human Relations Commission

1300 S. Grand, Bldg. B, Santa Ana
7:00 PM, Thursday, February 9, 2017

MINUTES

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

ABSENT: Becky Esparza, Bekele Demissie

STAFF: Norma López, Edgar Medina, Rusty Kennedy

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:55 PM by the Vice Chair, who thanked former Commission staff member James Armendaris for his many years of service upon the occasion of his retirement. Also, Vice-Chair introduced Don Han, Commission Staff, who facilitated a special presentation on documenting and reporting Hate Crimes and Incidents for Orange County.
2. Vice Chair welcomed Mark Miller who has joined the Commission and was appointed by Supervisor Bartlett's office.
3. M/S/C to approve the minutes
4. Dr. Kerry Reynolds reported on the Monthly Summary of Commission Activities, which special focus to new Commission Director attending the OC Sherriff's Interfaith Advisory Council and the Commission Director's participation at the Community Together Town Hall meeting on 1/29.

OPEN FORUM

The Vice Chair recognized guests, who introduced themselves, but did not address the Commission.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Director López, who updated that under the Hate Free OC Campaign Commission staff have increased their hate crime prevention outreach/presentations in the community. Commission staff recently had to respond to a couple of incidents in local schools and continue to offer support to those communities.
6. Vice Chair asked for consideration on issuing a statement in lieu of the recent Executive Order on Immigration. After some consideration, Commissioner Hamel proposed to table and explore a message that better aligns and could be released at the Hate Crime Network meeting when the Hate Crime report is released. Commissioners moved and supported this action.
7. Commissioner Piazza reviewed and updated reports on scheduled City Council visits. Vice Chair Steinberg suggested that the document be created under Google docs to facilitate future updates.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. Director López shared that the dialogues between Santa Ana Police Department and residents of the Cedar-Evergreen neighborhood have concluded and that there were very positive outcomes. Planning for future dialogues in Tustin are also underway.
9. Director López informed Commissioners that staff have facilitated 2 successful Implicit Bias trainings, which have received great reviews from the Child Support Services agencies and Families Forward.
10. Vice Chair announced that Awards 46 honorees have been selected a total of 6 Diverse Community Leader, 1 Community Policing, 1 Profile in Courage Award and 1 Distinguished School Categories. Business Diversity Award process closes Feb. 23rd at 4 PM.
11. Chief Hamel announced that a group of law enforcement officers and nonprofit partners had been working on a transgender policy. This initiative had been led by Chief Rob Handy and the City of Irvine is now in the process of reviewing the policies for adoption. Chief also shared that the hate crime data collection letter has been sent out to law enforcement agencies, which will inform the annual Hate Crime report.

12. The articles on human relations issues were reviewed by Commissioner Singer.
13. Director López announced that a copy of the Commission Bylaws was included in the packet for everyone to reference.
14. Vice Chair announced that the OCSD Interfaith Council continues to meet on a quarterly basis and that it is well attended.
15. Commissioner Miller announced that he has a show on the Laguna Beach radio on Saturdays 93.5 FM and is open to inviting others to participate in discussions related to human and social issues.
16. Vice Chair Steinberg adjourned the meeting at 8:43pm.