



**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

March 9, 2015

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

**Civic Center Library
Board of Directors Conference Room
3839 N. Drinkwater Blvd
Scottsdale, AZ 85251**

PRESENT: Bob Fox, Chair
James Campbell, Vice-Chair (arrived at 5:07 p.m.)
Ragan Grossman, Commissioner
Joel Martin, Commissioner
Ricoh Danielson, Commissioner
Lonny Ruben, Commissioner

ABSENT: Laurie Coe, Commissioner
Andrew Song, Commissioner
Edward Lopez, Commissioner

STAFF: Sharon Cini
David Simmons

GUESTS: Florita Campbell
Pat Taftoy

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Members were present as indicated above.

1. Approval of minutes from the February 9, 2014 meeting

COMMISSIONER COE MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 8, 2014 HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER MARTIN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR CAMPBELL WAS NOT YET PRESENT, AND COMMISSIONERS COE, LOPEZ AND SONG WERE ABSENT.

2. Public Comment

Pat Taftoy discussed the Empowerment Project, which is a documentary project highlighting ordinary women doing extraordinary things and what it means to be a successful woman in today's world. She invited Sharon Cini to facilitate the film viewing event, which is scheduled for March 25th at 6:00 p.m.

3. Service Recognition by Human Relations Commissioners: Dr. Joel Martin and Edward Lopez - 6 years of service

Chair Fox thanked Joel Martin and Eddie Lopez for their years of service on the commission.

Commissioner Martin said a few words about the experiences that being part of the Human Relations Commission gave her.

Commissioners Grossman and Campbell thanked Commissioner Martin for her contributions.

Ms. Cini presented Commissioner Martin with a gift of Solari bells as a thank you for her years of service.

4. Introductions of newly appointed Human Relations Commissioners: Ricoh Danielson and Lonny Ruben

Lonny Ruben introduced himself and talked about his background as a graduate from ASU now working in the national organic food distribution industry. He discussed his interest in working with the Human Relations Commission.

Ricoh Danielson introduced himself, discussing his background as a veteran and the owner of a digital forensics firm. He discussed his interest in working with the Human Relations Commission.

Ms. Cini and Commissioners introduced themselves to the new Commission members.

5. Nomination and election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson by Human Relations Commissioners

Discussion ensued regarding bylaws as they relate to Commissioner terms.

COMMISSIONER GROSSMAN NOMINATED BOB FOX TO CONTINUE IN THE POSITION OF CHAIR. VICE-CHAIR CAMPBELL SECONDED THE NOMINATION,

WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR FOX ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE. COMMISSIONERS COE, LOPEZ AND SONG WERE ABSENT.

COMMISSIONER GROSSMAN NOMINATED JAMES CAMPBELL TO CONTINUE IN THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR. CHAIR FOX SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR CAMPBELL ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE. COMMISSIONERS COE, LOPEZ AND SONG WERE ABSENT.

6. Presentation, discussion and possible recommendations to staff to agendize items regarding marketing and communications with other Human Relations Commissions (Tempe, Mesa, Phoenix, Gilbert, Chandler)

Vice-Chair Campbell said that the other commissions have not had a meeting to discuss partnering and marketing and communications yet, and suggested that the discussion be tabled until the next meeting. Ms. Cini will agendize an action item for the April meeting to discuss and possibly take action based on information from and collaboration with other cities' Human Relations Commissions.

7. Staff presentation and discussion and possible recommendation to staff liaison regarding Office of Diversity budget line items involving the Human Relations Commission and the mission of the Office of Diversity

Commissioner Martin recused herself from the discussion.

Ms. Cini presented the Office of Diversity budget and highlighted line items pertaining to the Human Relations Commission. She noted that the budget allows for \$4,500 in speaker honorariums and there is currently still \$4,100 remaining in the fiscal year budget. The budget allows for \$23,000 in civic event participation, \$1,293 of which is left for the fiscal year. She briefly reviewed areas in which the Office of Diversity and/or the HRC have participated in the past year and mentioned opportunities for the upcoming year.

It was the consensus of the Commission to recommend participating in the Positively Powerful Women program at a minimum of the \$1500 level, but that if the budget allows they would recommend full participation at the \$2,500 level.

Ms. Cini will report back to the Commission on the details, cost, and benefits of participating in the Taste of Asia and DLA.

8. Presentation, discussion and recommendations to staff liaison for Civil Dialogue Series 2015/16

Discussion ensued regarding possible upcoming topics for the FY 2015/16 Civil Dialogue Series. Commissioner Grossman suggested that instead of having four events, the focus be put on one or two topics and changing the format and expanding the events. The Commission discussed event topics including an event surrounding LGBT that could include a march for equality and would involve local businesses or focus on anti-bullying. They felt it is important to

focus on networking/pooling resources, creating an event that will create a media buzz and that the City of Scottsdale will be proud of.

9. Staff updates regarding upcoming diversity events and activities

Ms. Cini reported on the La Grande Fiesta and discussed changes she hopes to recommend for next year. She noted that she did not have the opportunity to see any of the performances. The event was filmed for Channel 11 and will be forwarded to Commissioners as soon as it becomes available.

Ms. Cini discussed the progress that has been and continues to be made towards the MEI score. She has been working in partnership with the Scottsdale Unified School District to increase the score by focusing on bullying. Staff is also collaborating with the Granite Reef Senior Center on providing programs for seniors. Mr. Simmons said that he met with Nick Molinari at the Granite Reef Senior Center to brainstorm a possible Civil Dialogue series at that location.

Ms. Cini noted that this month is International Women's Month. She asked that Commissioners contact her with any suggestions for ways to highlight women, such as writing an article about an influential woman in Scottsdale.

Ms. Cini said that next month she will report on the Civil Dialogue viewership information that is being given to her by Kelly Corsette from the Office of Communications.

10. Report from the Chair

Chair Fox again welcomed the new Commission members.

Chair Fox noted that on April 10th he and Ms. Cini will be working with Suzanne Paetzer on the Diversity Inclusion Day for Scottsdale Leadership. They will be making comments to the group on the Office of Diversity's perspectives and opening themselves up to questions from Scottsdale Leadership.

He noted that he and his wife volunteered for the Heard Museum Indian Affair Market last weekend and encouraged everyone to take a tour of the museum. A guided tour offers the opportunity to learn about Native American history that closes the gap between Arizona history and Native American history and culture.

Chair Fox mentioned the police shooting in Madison, Wisconsin, noting that the State of Wisconsin has a state law that requires an independent agency investigation any time there is a police officer involved shooting.

11. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Martin announced that her company will be working with the Desert Botanical Garden on diversity and inclusion culture change.

Commission members asked that the video made about Ms. Cini be published to the internet so they can all see it.

Commissioner Grossman said that she saw on the news that the City of Phoenix police department is having a push for diversity in the hiring of new police officers to fill the jobs that were eliminated during the recession.

Vice-Chair Campbell thanked Ms. Cini for her good work on the La Grande Fiesta booth and the Civil Dialogue Series. He said that he attended the Chinese Chamber of Commerce event at the Great Wall as well as the State of the City address given by Mayor Lane. He will be attending the Vietnamese Culture Club on March 14th.

12. Discussion regarding the draft agenda for the next meeting, and dates, times and topics for upcoming meetings

Ms. Cini noted that she and Mr. Simmons together with some volunteers will be manning an outreach group at Phoenix Pride Festival on April 11th and 12th. She will send additional information on the event to Commissioners.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz