



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, May 16, 2016

**Kiva Forum-City Hall
3939 N. Drinkwater Boulevard
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251**

- PRESENT:** James Campbell, Chair
Ragan Grossman, Vice Chair
Daria Lohman, Commissioner
Andrew Song, Commissioner
Ricoh Danielson, Commissioner
- ABSENT:** Joseph Ettinger, Commissioner
Laurie Coe, Commissioner
- STAFF:** Sharon Cini
David Simmons
- GUESTS:** Glen Spencer, Aunt Rita's Foundation
Rodney Montreuil
Jacque Keller, Quantum Art

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. Approval of minutes from the April 11, 2016 meeting

VICE-CHAIR GROSSMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 11, 2015 HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER LOHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONERS COE AND ETTINGER WERE ABSENT.

2. Public Comment

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

3. Presentation, discussion and recommendations to staff liaison regarding collaborative opportunities with Aunt Rita's Foundation

Glen Spencer, Executive Director, Aunt Rita's Foundation, gave a presentation outlining the history of the 501c(3) organization that was founded in 2005; partnerships with other non-profit organizations that focus on HIV/AIDS; and the HIV epidemic statistics in Maricopa County. He highlighted Aunt Rita's Foundations main annual events: AIDS walk Arizona & 5K Run; RED Brunch Gala; and SAVORlife. A new event, RED is the Night, will premier in 2017.

Jacque Keller from Quantum Art gave a presentation talking about the first annual Art for Aunt Rita's event which was held in April in Marshall Square. There has been great interest from other galleries and business owners in the vicinity and it is hoped that the event will grow from year to year. So far, Art for Aunt Rita's has commitment from several galleries and business owners as well as the Museum of the West for the 2017 event. Ms. Keller reviewed some ideas for the event, including offering auction items and getting a 15% of sales commitment from business owners. Mr. Spencer added that the plan is to hold Art for Aunt Rita's annually on the third Saturday in April. In addition to the gallery participation, musical entertainment and food vendors will be available in an effort to make it a signature event for Old Town Scottsdale.

Mr. Spencer said that Aunt Rita's started as a funder of other organizations and has evolved into what it is today. He noted that they are partnering with Theranos this year for National HIV testing day. Theranos will be offering free HIV testing services at their Wellness Center located at North Medical Plaza, 10250 N. 82nd Street June 23rd through 25th, 2016.

David Simmons, City of Scottsdale LGBT Liaison, noted that Aunt Rita's Foundation offers opportunities that fall within the City's goals and objectives.

Commission members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Commissioner Song suggested that Aunt Rita's offer a presentation to the Human Services Commission as well and added that Asian Pacific Community in Action (APCA) has recently started an initiative in HIV testing. Mr. Spencer noted that coincidentally, he has an appointment to meet with APCA this week. Mr. Spencer briefly discussed services that are offered by partnering organizations. Commission members commended the organization for its efforts and talked about how much they enjoyed attending the RED Brunch.

COMMISSIONER SONG MOVED TO ADD AUNT RITA'S FOUNDATION TO THE COMMUNITY DIVERSITY LIST AND TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL SUPPORT AT A FUTURE DATE. COMMISSIONER LOHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONERS COE AND ETTINGER WERE ABSENT.

4. Presentation and discussion regarding Haitian Flag Day Celebration and Haitian community

Rodney Montreuil gave a presentation discussing the Haitian Flag Day Celebration and the Haitian community in Arizona. He gave a history of the Haitian Flag Day Celebration, which is a tradition for Haitians and is no longer going to be held by the organizers that have done it in the past. He is personally working to organize a Haitian Flag Day Celebration that will celebrate Haitian culture and he is working to form an organization for Haitian residents that will focus on job creation, social integration, educational opportunities, a census of the community, and connecting with the homeland. He invited the Commission members to join in the celebration which will be held at the Fiesta Police Station at 1010 West Grove in Mesa on May 21st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Commission members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Montreuil explained that he is working on forming the organization by himself and is thankful for any help. He briefly talked about his plans for organization and activities.

It was consensus of the Commission to support Mr. Montreuil's efforts and to wait and discuss partnering with the Haitian organization.

5. Presentation, discussion and recommendation to staff liaison regarding a plan of action for Commissioner annual activities

- Veterans – Commissioner Danielson, Commissioner Ettinger
- Bullying – SUSD Diversity Plan - Commissioner Song, Commissioner Lohman
- Native Americans – Commissioner Ettinger, Commissioner Coe
- LGBT – Commissioner Grossman, Commissioner Lohman
- Interfaith – Chair Campbell, Commissioner Coe

Ms. Cini recalled that during a previous meeting the idea of an ASU Pat Tillman Veterans Center was discussed as well as an opportunity to develop a mentoring program with veterans in Scottsdale. She said that she and any interested Commissioners were invited by an ASU professor and the Director of the Office of Military Academic Engagement to attend a meeting about a project to develop awareness and sensitivity for veteran students on Wednesday, May 18th at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Lohman briefly discussed the SUSD Diversity Plan on bullying. She would like to see a metrics of different forms of bullying that are being seen in the schools. She said that the initial focus for developing a plan should be to talk to teachers and principals to find out what they feel the primary issues are. Commissioner Song suggested creating a sponsorship program that could be incorporated into the SUSD inclusion plan to educate City staff and teachers on ways to positively influence bullying situations.

Ms. Cini noted that she was supportive of starting with a particular focus and then looking at programs that are currently available and piggybacking off of that. She will work with Commissioners Song and Lohman to set up a meeting before the next HRC meeting.

- Native Americans

Ms. Cini noted that she and Commissioner Ettinger volunteered at the April 30th Morning Star Youth Leaders Council Urban Youth Leadership Summit at Fort McDowell Indian Community. Commissioner Ettinger asked that it be noted that he enjoyed the youth participants and was educated about various cultural aspects of the community and the community dress.

Ms. Cini proposed that the City of Scottsdale consider partnering with the Human Services Department and the Pascua Yaqui Community in holding an event sometime soon possibly in the fall to do ceremony and prayer with the Yaqui traditional deer dancers. The Allie Way art project has begun at Vista del Camino and Human Services and the Diversity department will be partnering to complete that project.

Ms. Cini reported on the status of the non-discrimination ordinance with city employees. Endeavors are continuing with the Infinity Group president once each quarter and are working to collaborate with other cities to share information. Training components are being considered as part of the city training component.

Mr. Simmons said that the next SMOCA event, "One year of Love" is scheduled for June 26th. The event will commemorate the SCOTUS ruling on marriage equality. The next Out at SMOCA will be scheduled in late October.

Chair Campbell mentioned that the Arizona Interfaith Movement is planning to hold the Golden Rule Day in Scottsdale next year. Ms. Cini added that a meeting will be scheduled to begin planning.

6. Staff updates regarding recent and upcoming diversity events and activities

Staff will provide a summary of recent and upcoming diversity events and activities.

- Upcoming June event with SMOCA "Evolution of Marriage Equality" community panel discussion and Brunch - one-year anniversary of the change in the law
- April 29: Review - Phoenix Indian Center Community Leaders Breakfast, ASU SkySong
- April 30: Arizona Native Youth Leadership Summit - Morning Star Youth Council/Foundation
- May 3: ABACUS Project - Economic Impact of Asian Americans in the US and AZ
- Internal city employee events "I can't believe its Vegan!"
- Diversity training updates - mandatory for city employees

Ms. Cini mentioned that SMOCA will be hosting the Evolution of Marriage Equality panel discussion in June. The Indian Center Community Leaders Breakfast was on April 29th and was attended by Chair Campbell and Commissioners Ettinger and Song. The Morning Star Youth Council Arizona Native Leadership Summit on April 30th was successful and the City will strive to make an impact with that group. Chair Campbell and Commissioner Song attended the ABACUS Project on May 3rd, which provided good information on the Asian Community. There have been two City employee lunch and learn events, "Who are the Six" and "I Can't Believe it's Vegan." Mandatory diversity training will have had 1,000 employees by the end of June and 2,200 by December.

7. Report from the Chair

- April 18: HRC sunset review/audit committee
- May 7: Asian Pacific Community in Action - "Taste of Asia" event

Chair Campbell noted that the Audit Committee approved continuation of the HRC during their sunset review on April 18. The recommendation will be on the City Council's consent agenda on May 17th.

Chair Campbell attended the Asian Pacific Community in Action's Taste of Asia event on May 7th.

8. Commissioner Items, including diversity activities attended

Commissioner Lohman attended Competitive Arizona, which is sponsored by One Community. One Community will be conducting events statewide. She noted the importance of continuing to promote the Unity Pledge.

Commissioner Danielson had an opportunity to work with Commissioner Ettinger in the community advocacy and guidance offered during the Farmer's Market.

Commissioner Song noted that he attended the Jacob Scholarship breakfast. The organizations have been in operation for approximately 40 years.

Chair Campbell mentioned details of the Haitian Flag Day celebration.

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

Ms. Cini reviewed the items for future agendas, including ACSL and Filipino Independence Day.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz