



Minutes of the City of Albuquerque Human Rights Board

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 16, 2016

Albuquerque Museum of Art and History

2000 Mountain Rd NW

Albuquerque, NM 87104

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gary Williams motioned a call to order and Mr. Enrique Aguilar seconded at 4:00 p.m. (MST) on Tuesday, February 16, 2016.

Board Members Present:

Mr. Enrique Aguilar

Ms. Elaine Miller

Mr. Gary Williams

Ms. Dusadee Sarangarm

STAFF PRESENT

Nick Bullock, Board and Assistant City Attorney

Gabriel Campos, Director, Office of Diversity and Human Rights

Annabelle J. Romero, Deputy Director, Office of Diversity and Human Rights

Shannon Triplett, Office of Diversity and Human Rights

PUBLIC PRESENT: none

2. Chairwoman Dusadee Sarangarm asked if everyone had looked at the agenda for February 16, 2016 and asked for a motion to approve. The motion was made and seconded. Approval of agenda passed unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday, August 18, 2015 was made and seconded. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.
4. Introduction and Swearing-In of New Member could not be done because new member was not present and no notary was available. Secretary Gabe Campos mentioned the new board member, Tina Tomlin, works for the county and found us on-line. Annabelle Romero indicated her bio is available on the City Web and would send it to the other board members. Secretary Campos added that Ms. Tomlin will be a good addition to the board to help address

issues that often come up related to Bernalillo County constituency. Chairwoman Sarangarm stated item number 4 of this agenda would be moved to the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

5. Director's Report -- Gabe Campos, presented a compilation of two quarters summarizing reports on cases handled by the Office of Diversity and Human Rights (ODHR), a list of projects/collaboration and training/events. He indicated ODHR closed 220 cases and explained the type of services ODHR is doing and what each reference means. He provided a sampling of cases that have been completed. Mr. Campos mentioned ODHR's work with Family and Community Services (FCS) and will be working with them on fair housing complaints.

Mr. Campos provided an overview and update of the Albuquerque Collaborative on Police and Community Relations initiative. Phase 1 coordinated 22 Stakeholders meetings; Phase 2 distilled all comments from the Stakeholder meetings; and Phase 3 is the City's response to recommendations and comments. The Office of Diversity and Human rights is in the process of producing a final report on how the city is addressing the issues and recommendations made by the Stakeholders and community inquiries. Mr. Campos referenced the Inspection of Public Records Act process (IPRA) where one can make a public records request on anything the city is doing including city purchasing but a lot of people do not know about it. He indicated that the final report should finally answer some of the questions the public has had on things that are going on and the public did not know. In addition there is a new program that APD has recently released a new program called Police and Community Together (PACT), where police will be moved out into the community. The Mayor will make the final decision on how the report is made available but most likely will be posted on the city web and will make sure it is made available to the Board.

The Mayor had a Native American Task Force Conference where he announced the new Native Liaison, Dawn Begay, serving as a link to the Navajo Nation and Pueblos in providing feedback as to what the city is doing and receiving information on what could be done better. This is in response to the killings of two homeless men in Albuquerque. Including connection to the native community she will help connect services to the native community.

There is a new ADA Advisory Council the city has put together.

The Mayor had a Pay Equity Press conference with 27 companies that have met requirements of contracting with city and deviation between what they are paying men and women is 10% or less.

Mr. Campos then turned it over to Annabelle Romero to speak about the City of Albuquerque Winter Shelter. Ms. Romero stated that the City opens an emergency winter shelter from November through March every year. This year it was opened early because of the early cold weather. Ms. Romero reported that this year multiple agencies came together to help in this effort including the Albuquerque Rescue Mission coordinating and managing the program; UNM donating 75 gently used mattresses to replace old, worn mattresses; and Bernalillo

County donating \$5,000 for things like towels and toiletries that were much needed. The shelter is located on the West side on I-40 at the old DMD jail. A press conference was held in November to announce the generous efforts made by multiple agencies coming together for this much needed service. The Albuquerque Rescue Mission runs the program and provide vans that run throughout the day where they pickup individuals needing shelter for the night. They are then picked up the next morning from the shelter and have the option of getting breakfast at St. Martin's and dinner prior to the evening stay. The Office of Diversity and Human Rights toured the shelter prior to the opening because there was a concern that the showers were too open and did not provide adequate privacy in the men's area. Because it was previously a jail the showers were designed as huge stalls and completely open. We were notified by a representative of the transgender community that they wanted to identify where they wanted to go but someone else was deciding that for them where they should be placed. As a result Family and Community Services (FCS) examined their policy and now allow individuals to decide which section they associate with. FCS also added shower curtains to the shower stalls and raised the wall for more privacy. Another issue that came up was in the family section where only one parent was allowed to stay with the children. FCS adjusted their policy in that regard as well and now allows both parents to stay with their children and let them be together as a whole family. Mr. Esquibel asked what complaints were made by the homeless population and the efficacy of the shelter itself with the shelter being so far out from the center of the city. Mr. Campos responded that the shelter can house up to 300 people, some people do not want to be a part of the system at all but what helps is that people can sleep and keep their possessions there during the day and return every night. On average 160 men 30 women and 8 families stay in the shelter each night.

Mr. Campos talked about an issue regarding Kaplan University where a lady was taking on-line courses and needed a sign language interpreter. Kaplan University said no and offered text that goes across the screen. Unfortunately because English is not her first language that option would not work for her. Mr. Campos contacted Kaplan University and didn't get any further with the request for accommodation. They told him what they would offer her and would allow her to terminate with the University for a Cost. In researching further Mr. Campos found that the Department of Education would take her case against Kaplan University.

At this point Lucia Garcia who is a notary walked into the meeting and offered to notarize the oath of office for Elaine Miller who was reappointed as a Board member for another term. Nick Bullock, City Attorney for the Human Rights Board, administered the oath and it was notarized by Ms. Garcia. Ms. Miller requested a copy of the oath so ODHR staff will scan a copy and send it to her.

Mr. Campos continued with his report that he is working with the UNM Medical School Interdepartmental Professional Education with 300 plus medical field students that are going out to 20 locations in the city and county to do a survey on what those community members need. Their primary objective is to look at the social determinants of health but it can be used as a mechanism to see what things can be considered for positive change within communities. The students will be presenting their findings to city and county representatives as well as the

Mayor, City Council Members and County Commissioners who will also participate in the event that will be held on April 12 at UNM. It is a great collaboration and opportunity to gain valuable information on what is needed in the various communities throughout the city. They did something on a smaller scale in the fall and discovered things like community centers are open during hours when no one is using them. Those are things we need to hear to make changes.

Mr. Campos was recently appointed by the New Mexico Supreme Court to the Access to Justice Commission. It will help him to know what services are out there for free that we can use to refer folks. Mr. Campos does a lot of presentations like St. Pius Senior Class and if the Board has other ideas he would be happy to do them. Mr. Aguilar asked what Fresquez is. Mr. Campos replied that they are a company that owns several restaurants and asked him to speak on issues of discrimination and ADA requirements which is about a 2 hour presentation and he would be happy to do the presentations for other agencies if needed.

Ms. Elaine Miller asked for an update on the Mental Health initiative that the City is coordinating with the County. Mr. Campos explained that ODHR followed up and was informed that the discussion continues and the City is moving on what it can do. Some things that have occurred include:

- Creating Community Solutions Dialogues on Mental Health Report can be found at <https://www.cabq.gov/family/live-well-albuquerque/growth>
- New Mexico 24/7 Crisis Line with licensed professional New Mexico CAL (community assistance line) is up and running and can be found at <http://www.nmcrisisline.com>.
- Rolling out Mental Health First Aid, an in-person training that teaches you how to help people developing a mental illness or in a crisis. <http://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/cs/>
- The APD Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC), a group formed through the DOJ agreement that calls for community representation, continues to meet with a focus on creating solutions that lead to improved outcomes regarding police contact with mentally ill individuals as well as the homeless.
- City/County Behavioral Task Force deal with recommendations and looking at the county tax revenues and how they should be spent.
- The Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Government Commission (ABCGC), an intergovernmental coordinating body brings together Albuquerque City Council and Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners to address a variety of issues including some recent resolutions to create a collaborative process for behavioral health reform. More information can be found at www.livewellabq.info

6. Public Comment -- The Board did not receive notification of public comment.
7. New Business/Announcements – Mr. Aguilar mentioned that he is in the process of helping the Coleman Vision to set up a foundation to help wheel chair athletes travel. He is also working with USTA to try and have a wheel chair tournament in Albuquerque. Mr. Campos asked to be kept updated because the Mayor is always interested.

8. Adjournment -- There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairperson Dusadee Sarangarm adjourned the meeting. The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at the ABQ Open Space Visitor's Center. The meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

SUBMITTED:

READ AND APPROVED:

Signed copy available on request

Signed copy available on request

Mr. Gabriel Campos
Secretary to the Board

Dusadee Sarangarm
Chairperson of the Board

Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2016