Minutes of the City of Albuquerque Human Rights Board

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 19, 2014
Office of Diversity and Human Rights
2nd Floor, Suite 201, City Hall
One Civic Plaza NW, Albuquerque, NM 87103

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair, Enrique Aquilar, called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. (MST) on Tuesday, August 19, 2013.

Board Members Present:
Mr. Enrique Aguilar
Elaine Miller
Mr. Robert Poyourow
Ms. Dusadee Sarangarm
Ms. Hwa Soon (Sue) Thorson

STAFF PRESENT
Doris Duhigg, Board and Assistant City Attorney
Mr. Gabriel J. Campos, Human Rights Officer, Office of Diversity and Human Rights
Ms. Annabelle J. Romero, Deputy Director, Office of Diversity and Human Rights
Shannon Triplett, Office of Diversity and Human Rights

2. Vice Chair Enrique Aguilar’s motion to approve agenda for August 19, 2014 passed unanimously.

3. Vice Chair Enrique Aguilar’s motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 passed unanimously.

4. Director’s Report
Gabe Campos invited guests to introduce themselves, Stephanie Kean, Field Representative, with Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham and Zoe Goldman, intern. Ms. Kean’s work aligns with Human Rights. Ms. Kean took the opportunity to introduce herself and get familiar with the Office of Diversity and Human Rights.

Mr. Campos presented a summary and excel spreadsheet on cases handled by the Office of Diversity and Human Rights (ODHR), a list of projects/collaboration and training/events. He explained the type of
services ODHR is doing and what each reference means. He provided a sampling of cases that we have completed including the case with the Department of Transit and its joyriding policy. It was suggested that the purpose of Transit’s joyriding policy be evaluated and that it be made clear and consistent for all department’s bus operators and the public riding city buses.

Mr. Campos reported that an evaluation was made of the South Broadway Building for ADA compliance and it was found to be accessible. The third item reported was the meeting Mayor Berry had with Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly regarding the two Navajo homeless men that were murdered in Albuquerque. The Mayor and President Shelly are partnering to form a Task Force to address the issue of homeless Native Americans and specifically Navajo Natives addressing any threat the homeless might receive in the City of Albuquerque. The last item reported was another ADA review of Isotopes Park regarding appropriate signage, access to ticket counter and companion seating. Accessibility issues found were limited to the pavement markings and signage. The ADA does not address requirements regarding the size and type for companion seats. It only states that a companion seat must be provided adjacent to a wheelchair space.

Mr. Campos discussed two major Mayoral initiatives that reside within the Office of Diversity and Human Rights. 1. The Community Policing Councils (CPCs) that will include community members that have been selected by leaders of the community to conduct meetings specific to issues concerning each of the six APD area commands in the city, and 2. The Collaborative on Policy Community Relations, facilitated meetings, where we are inviting the public to participate in discussion of what policing should look like – a conversation that has been needed in our community.

Other initiatives Mr. Campos mentioned:
- The Fair Pay Equity Task Force which is moving along. We are waiting for data from contractors regarding what they pay men and women, not the actual amount but the deviation. We are looking at incentives for those in compliance. It is a law but still having .76 to the dollar and a difference in wages for women.
- Parks and Recreation inclusion programs including a wheelchair accessible playground.
- ODHR and ADR have taken a facilitation course for certification in anticipation of the facilitations that we will be coordinating.
- Mental Health Collaborative – moving to the next step of gathering data and looking for action items where they will conduct more meetings to select top initiatives to present to the Mayor.
- ADA Wheelchair Tennis Clinic – Jerry Cline Facility compliant but sports wheelchairs could not get through. The Facility was made more accessible to accommodate the wider sports wheelchairs. Parks and Rec will be purchasing additional wheelchairs.
- U-Visa issue for immigrant community victims of domestic violence moving toward a rational approach for this issue.
- Tribal housing issues in preliminary stages
- Mr. Campos was asked to give a talk about domestic violence by Griffith University in Australia

5. Public Comment
The Board did not receive notification of public comment.

6. New Business/Announcements

Robert Poyourow asked what was reasonable for Transit Department to come up with regarding their policy on joyriding. Mr. Campos responded that hopefully by the next Board meeting which is in 90 days will push Transit to address this issue. This will be added as an agenda item for the next Board meeting.

Enrique Aguilar stated that USCA was so impressed with Jerry Cline that they are coordinating a tennis tournament in October.

Mr. Campos mentioned that Civic Plaza is now under new management but fees for groups like the American Asian Association will be waived.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Vice Chair Enrique Aguilar adjourned the meeting. The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at the City of Albuquerque’s Office of Diversity and Human Rights, at City Hall, One Civic Plaza NW, 2nd floor, Albuquerque, NM. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

SUBMITTED: 

READ AND APPROVED:

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Mr. Gabriel Campos
Secretary to the Board

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Ms. Erin Olson
Chairperson of the Board

Date: August 19, 2014