

**AGENDA**  
**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**  
**February 17, 2005 @ 6:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall – Council Chambers**  
**3900 Main St.**  
**Riverside, CA 92501**  
**826-5302/5709**

**Present:** Chani Beeman, Sherry Gordon, Aric Isom, Kelly Keenan, Haydee Llanes, Khaled Othman, David St. Pierre, Marisa Valdez Yeager, Sonya Walker, A.J. Wilson, and Rosemary Heru.

**Absent:** Lisa Marie Dryan (absent), Paul Green (absent), Bernie Gutierrez (absent), Claudia Johnson (excused), Luz Maria Negron-Bermo (excused), and Gladys Walker (excused).

**Staff:** Pedro Payne (Executive Director), Jenna McAlmond (Sr. Analyst), and Jen Gray-O'Connor (Analyst).

**I Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm.

MOTION: To excuse Commissioner Johnson and Negron-Bermo.

M/S/C: St. Pierre/Gordon/Carried.

**II. Approval of Minutes – December 9, 2004  
November 18, 2004**

MOTION: To approve minutes of the November 18, 2004 meeting.

M/S/C: Beeman/Othman/Carried.

MOTION: To approve minutes of the December 9, 2004 meeting.

M/S/C: Beeman/St. Pierre/Carried.

**III. Introductions and Citizen Participation**

Deborah Wong addressed HRC on the issue of Pedro Payne serving as Executive Director for both HRC and CPRC. She represented Public Accountability, and asked that HRC join this group to insist that each commission have an Executive Director.

**IV Chairs Report**

Chairperson Wilson submitted a written report. He highlighted the staff realignment issues, and discussed an agenda item to identify staff objectives for the realignment. Chairperson Wilson also highlighted the changes in regard to Measure GG.

**V. Executive Director's Report**

Pedro Payne submitted a written report in the agenda packet. Dr. Payne introduced Jen Gray-O'Connor who will be serving in the Office of Human Relations as an Analyst in the interim period of the staff alignment. There will be a joint HRC/CPRC Retreat to discuss the realignment. It will be held February 10, 2005 at UCR. Human Relations will have an intern for the next 10 weeks from the County of Riverside Learn and Earn Project. Commissioner Beeman asked that Pedro Payne include Commissioner Beeman in the retreat.

## **VI. Community Group Discussion – California School for the Deaf and Model Deaf Task Force**

Deborah Cook from CSDR gave an update on the Captioned movies at the Riverside Plaza Theater. HRC asked that staff develop a resolution and forward to City Council for a presentation to Regal Theaters. Dr. Payne asked if there were additional issues that HRC could assist with. Deborah asked that all City material have a line which reads “Sign language interpreter available upon request.” Chairperson Wilson asked that staff link their web site to CSDR.

## **VII Old Business**

### **A. Eastside Youth Advisory Council**

Plans for 2005 include a Heritage Potluck that would include a Diversity Potluck. The group would also like to hold small dialogue groups. The Commission discussed having an evaluation tool for evaluating the EYAC. Commissioner Beeman asked if there was a relationship between EYAC and the Mayor’s Youth Commission. Currently there is not a connection between EYAC and the Youth Commission.

### **B. Commission Meetings Rules of Conduct**

This item was referred to the Governmental Affairs Committee to discuss if the rules were needed at an average monthly meeting. Commissioner Keenan suggested defining what number or other criteria would determine when the rule was enacted.

MOTION: The Rules of Conduct would be enacted if there are 10 or more people present to discuss a particular issue. The time allotted would be divided for each side of the issue.

M/S/C: St. Peirre/S.Walker/Carried

### **C. Rescheduled Facilitator Training**

Staff will contact the following to determine the training dates. Commissioners Isom, Beeman, Heru, Duran, Wilson, and Ex-Officio Student Member Phu.

## **VIII New Business**

### **A. Planning Retreat/Meeting Report**

Staff planned a work program for the executive committee with a list of priorities.

### **B. Commission Objects for Evaluation of Interim Staff Realignment.**

Chairperson Wilson reported on a meeting with Pedro Payne and Interim City Manager Tom Evans to discuss the staff realignment. Mr. Evans asks that HRC develop objectives for assessing the success of the realignment prior to the join retreat.

Discussion from the floor:

- Mike Crition raised a concern of a joint Executive Director and questioned the timing of this realignment with the passage of Measure II.
- Linda Dunn raised her concern of a join Executive Director with the CPRC. Linda sits on the board of the Latino Network who are suspicious of the timing of this realignment.
- Michael Dunn discussed his concern of one Executive Director over both commissions. Mr. Dunn recommended looking at both job descriptions for each of the Executive Director positions.
- Mary Shelton reported that she too is concerned with a number of factors regarding the combining of both commissions to having one Executive Director.

MOTION: To forward these objectives to the retreat, with one addition regarding budget monitoring.

M/S/C: Gordon/St. Pierre/C

## **IX Committee and Task Force Reports**

### **A. Eastside Youth Advisory Committee (EYAC) 2005 Goals**

### **B. RPD Liaison**

### **C. Questions for Subcommittee Chairs**

### **D. Homeless Task Force (included in Chairs report)**

Chairperson Wilson gave a status report

### **E. RPD/HRC Liaison Program – Commissioner Beeman**

Commissioner Beeman resubmitted a written proposal to revive the program. The timing is good because of the transition to the new precinct model, the new rotation schedule, and the implementation of the Management Accountability Program (MAP) which holds Police Managers accountable to many factors, including Community Relations (COPS).

Commissioner Beeman recommended that HRC establish the first four goals as presented. The next step would be to meet with the Chief and Police Management to discuss their expectations of the area commanders.

Chairperson Wilson created a working group of Commissioners Beeman, St. Pierre, and Keenan to further create this program. Staff will work with the Chief to organize a meeting to further discuss the issue.

## **X Commissioners Comments**

Chairperson Beeman reported briefly on UNITY Day at MLK. Beeman met with the Director and asked how HRC could be further involved. She asked that the Director be invited to Education and Outreach and Sherman Indian High School had a forum by WIECAH. Asked that O/E discuss multicultural councils to have a study circle with Sherman Indian High School.

Bill Phu reported on UNITY Day at MLK, and reported that racial tension has diminished a bit. School feels isolated from the City and needs HRC outreach programs.

Commissioner Duran reported on a February 3, 2005 workshop by Office of Neighborhoods to discuss the Eastside mapping process. Park and Recreation now has a presence at Centro de Atzlan and they are taking the building back.

Chairperson Wilson will facilitate a series of dialogues at First Congregational Church on the issue of same sex marriage.

## **XI Community Calendar**

Events have been identified by Commissioners and staff to be of interest to those involved with programs of the Commission. The most current calendar will be distributed at the meeting.

## **XII Schedule of Meetings (all subcommittee meetings are held at City Hall, please check agenda for conference room location)**

- **Governmental Affairs: February 24, 2005 @ 5:30pm.**

- **Education and Outreach: February 22, 2005 @ 6:00pm.**

- **Executive: March 1, 2005 @ 5:30 pm.**

- **Human Relations Commission: March 17, 2005 @ 6:00pm.**

**XIII Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Gray-O'Connor  
Analyst