



MINUTES

REGULAR HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, March 3, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.

Hillside Conference Room

Meeting Location

El Cerrito City Hall

10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Commissioner Elizabeth Block
Commissioner Patricia Durham
Commissioner Antonio Wong

Councilmember Sandi Potter

7:05 p.m. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Block, Durham, Wong all present
Lieutenant Robert De La Campa from the Police Department was present
Councilmember Potter absent

Approval of Minutes

Approve the February 3, 2010 Human Relations Commission Meeting Minutes.

Action: Moved, seconded (Block/Wong) and carried unanimously to approve minutes as submitted.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – No speakers

COUNCIL LIAISON AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Berkeley Opera - Commissioner Block reported she enjoyed the Berkeley Opera with Don Giovanni and the opera was well attended - the proceeds go the High School. Commissioner Durham stated the Commission should try a partnership to gain recognition or possibly fund raising.

California Teachers Association – Commissioner Block reported that there is a statewide strike scheduled on March 4, 2010.

Old Business

New Members – Commissioner Block stated that she was not successful finding new members. Commissioner Durham stated that one out of three she talked to may be interested but they were not available tonight (February 3, 2010). She will invite students to come out to future meetings. Commissioner Wong stated may be the Human Relations Commission could contact Cerrito Theatre to advertise about the Commission looking for new members.

Commission Brochure – Staff Beshears will send the brochure out to Commissioners for input/changes. Commissioner Block will send her bio to add to the brochure.

New Business

Police Department Reorganization - Lieutenant De La Campa reported on the reorganization of the Police Department prior to Police Chief Scott Kirkland's retirement. Mike Regan is Captain and second in command, the Commander class was deleted and the department went back to the Lieutenant and Sergeant structure. Robert De La Campa, Stephen Bonini and Paul Keith are lieutenants assigned to a division within the department. The city is actively recruiting for Police Chief which closes on April 2, 2010. Chief Kirkland is staying on temporarily until the new Police Chief is hired. Lieutenant Keith attended training at the Museum of Tolerance in southern California on diversity and awareness. He is the first person the department has sent to this training. Another detective will be sent in the future.

Hate Crime – Lieutenant De La Campa reported on the hate crime that took place on February 27, 2010. He also provided a copy of the press release to the Commissioners and staff Beshears. The crime took place at Lucky's, 1000 El Cerrito Plaza. After an investigation, a male resident of Richmond was arrested for assault and booked at the Martinez Jail pending charges by the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office.

Police Explorers – Lieutenant De La Campa is looking for Police Explorers who are interested in learning more about a career in public safety. The ages range for 14 – 20 and more information is available on the Police Department website.

Items for Next Meeting

Recruit new members – Commissioner Durham wants to talk about how to publicize. Commissioner Wong suggested the Cerrito Theatre and the Community Center.

Brochure – Staff Beshears will bring a copy of the brochure, with changes to the next meeting on April 7, 2010. Commissioner Durham suggests reading about other commissions to find out what's going on and set goals for the Human Relations Commission.

July 4th Celebration – Commissioners want to discuss more ideas to attract more people to the booth.

Facebook – Commissioner Wong will check to see if the Human Relations Commission can get something on Facebook.

Announcements

Contra Costa College – Commissioner Durham announced the College presents "The Wiz" beginning March 4, 2010. The play will have local high school and college students; come out and support the play.

ADJOURNED HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING at 8:15 p.m.
The next meeting is on April 7, 2010 at 7:00 pm.