

# **MINUTES**

# **HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING**

Wednesday, September 7, 2011 - 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 Linda Jolivet Commissioner Gabriel Quinto

Commissioner Sara Parker Commissioner Erika Whitcomb Commissioner Antonio Wong

## 7:05 p.m ROLL CALL

Commissioners Block, Jolivet, Quinto, Whitcomb and Wong – present Commissioners Durham, Parker and Whitcomb - absent Council Liaison Ann Cheng - present

### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC –** No speakers

### **Approval of Minutes**

Approve the August 3, 2011 Human Relations Commission Meeting Minutes.

**Action:** Moved, seconded (Whitcomb/Quinto) and carried unanimously to approve minutes.

#### COUNCIL LIAISON AND COMMISSION REPORTS -

Council Cheng reported that the City has to "pay to play" \$1.8 million to keep Redevelopment and it is an issue because the City does not have the money. Currently, the Council is looking at how to fill the gap because the efforts by Redevelopment have been great. Sites that the City owns are being reviewed to sell and the money could go toward the payment that is due in January. The Redevelopment Association is fighting for local redevelopment agencies.

Officer Payne reported on hate crimes that occurred recently. On July 15, 2011 between Central and Carlson in the 3100 block, a note referencing the individual being Muslim was left on a taxi vehicle. A Hate Violence and Civil Rights brochure was provided to the victim. On August 7, 2011, obscenities relating to homosexuality were painted on a civic, prius hybrid and a mini cooper – appears to be eco green vehicles located on the North Hill in the Barrett area. Black paint was used and a Hate Violence and Civil Rights brochure was provided to the victims.

#### **Old Business**

Promoting Diversity for high school students – Proposal draft with revisions was provided to Commissioners by Commissioner Jolivet. Commissioners discussed possibly getting local businesses to match funds. Staff Liaison Beshears will present the proposal to City staff

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forapproval and email the Commissioners regarding the outcome prior to the next meeting.

How to Honor Ernest Iiyama – Commissioner Quinto reported that he is waiting to hear back from the Japanese Citizens league to discuss how the Commission will honor Iiyama by proclamation and possibly placement on the Wall of Fame outside the Council Chambers. Motion made to prepare a proclamation to honor Iiyama at a future date.

Action: Moved, seconded (Quinto/Block) and carried unanimously.

### **Items for Next Meeting**

Promoting Diversity at El Cerrito Schools – Review & Finalize Proposal

How to Honor Ernest Iiyama - El Cerrito activist who died

Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration – January 16, 2012

Community Access Tickets Service (CATS) – discuss if this is something the Commission wants to participate in

Announcements – No announcements

#### ADJOURNED HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING at 8:02 p.m.

The next meeting is on October 5, 2011 at 7:00 pm.