

Human Rights Commission
January 21, 2010
DRAFT Minutes

<u>Commissioners Present</u>	<u>Commissioners Absent</u>
Margaret Akdeniz	Raji Bains
Chair Vanessa Dao Burbach	
Dr. Calvin Gill	
Andrae Gonzalez Macapinlac	
Clarence Madrilejos	
John M. Marienthal	
Vice Chair David Parker	
Edward Walker	
Megan Young	

Council Liaison

Yvonne Wong – Councilmember Chu’s Office

Staff

Ernest Azevedo – City Manager’s Office

a) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. A quorum of 9 was present. Those present introduced themselves, including the new Commissioner appointees, Margaret Akdeniz and Megan Young.

b) Orders of the Day & Agenda Approval

By motion of Vice Chair Parker seconded by Commissioner Madrilejos, item F5 was moved to F1, the motion was unanimously approved (Yes: 9; No: 0). All present voted to approve the motion.

By motion Chair Burbach seconded by Vice Chair Parker, the Orders of the Day and Agenda were unanimously approved (Yes: 9; No: 0). All present voted to approve the agenda.

c) Approval of Minutes

By motion of Commissioner Macapinlac, seconded by Commissioner Marienthal, the November 19, 2009 minutes were unanimously approved (Yes: 9; No: 0). All present voted to approve the agenda.

d) Open Forum

During the Open Forum portion of the meeting, there were comments from Martha O Connell, JoAnne Ingold and Falun Gong. The speakers shared two items with the Human Rights Commission. Item 1: Recognizing religious holidays of the Eastern Orthodox Denomination and placing the item on the agenda for discussion. 2. Falun Gong expressed thanks to the Commission for the support and awareness that they had given to her imprisonment in China.

e) Standing Reports

1. Council Liaison Report

No Report

2. Human Relations Liaison Report – No Report

3. San Jose Police Department Liaison Report

Lt. Thomas Simms had three items: 1) Lt. Simms provided an update to the Commission regarding the San José Police Department's use of the head-mounted surveillance camera. The new devices will allow the Police Department to review video of each contact made with the public. In addition, Lt. Simms explained the storage of video tapes, if the tape related to a case; it will be stored forever, otherwise for 12 months. 2) Lt. Simms distributed DVD videos of the San José Police Department's Cultural and Diversity Training provided in multiple languages Muslim, Sikh and Vietnamese. 3) Lt. Simms agreed to coordinate a ride along for Commissioners available to participate on Tuesday, February 16th during the Mardi Gras patrol of downtown San José.

4. Staff Report

CMO Staff Liaison, Ernest Azevedo had two items: 1) Mayor Gang Prevention Task Force Summit meeting. 2) Mayor Chuck Reed and the San Jose City Council 2010 Community Breakfast

f) Discussion and Action Agenda Items

1. Discussion and Action: Setting the date, time, location and goals for the 2010 Annual Retreat (Staff)

By motion of Vice Chair Parker seconded by Commissioner Marienthal, the Human Rights Commission Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 13, 2010 from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm at City Hall 200 East Santa Clara Street in the Council Wing 120 and was unanimously approved (Yes: 9; No: 0). All present voted to approve the agenda

2. Discussion – Report from staff of the Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 Human Rights Commission recruitment.

Staff Liaison Ernest Azevedo reported that there were a total of ten applicants, and after the applications were screened by the City Clerk's Office, nine applicants participated in the interview process with Project Diversity. Afterwards, Councilmember Chu recommended Megan Young and Margaret Akdeniz for appointment to the Human Rights Commission. The Staff Liaison agreed to invite the City Clerk's Office to next month's meeting to provide further training and education of the Boards and Commissions recruitment procedures.

3. Discussion - Commission will discuss status of existing Standing Committees, Chairpersons, Membership and the consideration of the need for creation of Ad Hoc Committees during 2010.

Due to the vacancy of the Chairperson for Public Safety Oversight Committee, Chair Burbach nominated herself as the Chair of the committee. In addition, Chair Burbach nominated former Commissioners Bob Sippel and Bob Bailey to the Committee. The entire Commission will vote on the Chairperson and members next month. In addition, Commission Chair Burbach requested that Commissioners email her regarding their interest in one of the two Committees. Vice Chair Parker expressed interest in being nominated to the Committee.

In regards to the Chair and membership of the Outreach Committee, those nominations will occur next week, and the Commission will vote at the retreat on Chairperson and membership for the Outreach Committee.

4. Discussion – Commission will discuss opportunities for Co sponsoring events in 2010.

Commissioners will continue to get more input from the community on events or activities that they would like the Human Rights Commission to co-sponsor in 2010. Commissioners also noted that there would be a need to set criteria that events may be free or a very low cost due to no budget being allocated for such activities.

5. **Discussion – Commission will discuss a Resolution for the Uganda Anti-Homosexuality Bill.**

Commissioner Macapinlac shared this pending resolution, but Commissioners recognized that this item may not move forward due it not having an immediate impact on citizens of San José. However, the Commission would like to be bring awareness of this issue to the citizens of San José. Commissioner Macapinlac and Commissioner Parker agreed to further review the resolution and consider what is within the purview of the Human Rights Commission bringing the item back to the Commission at a later date.

g) **Standing Committee Reports:**

- (1) Outreach Committee – No report.
- (2) Public Safety Oversight Committee – No report.
- (3) Youth Commission Liaison – No report.
- (4) Senior Commission – No report

h) **Commissioner Updates:**

None

i) **Community Events:**

None

j) **Future Agenda Items**

- Standing Committees and Liaisons
- HRC Training
- Retreat

k) **Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Vice Chair Parker, seconded by Commissioner Marienthal, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm. (Yes: 9; No: 0).

NEXT SCHEDULED HRC MEETING: February 18, 2009 @ 6:30 P.M.

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