



City of Richmond Human Rights and Human Relations Commission Action Minutes

Wednesday, January 23, 2012 at 6:30 pm
City Council Chamber, Community Building, 1st Floor
440 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond CA 94804

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Human Rights and Human Relations Commission was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by Chairperson Feyer.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Wright, Gonzalez, Pareja, Sullivan, Vice-Chair Brown, and Chair Feyer.

Absent: Commissioner Saunders; Commissioner Harris (arrived at 7:00 pm)

AGENDA REVIEW

No Action

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Feyer, noted and requested correction to Item C, page 7, under "Discussion", to the November 28, 2011 minutes. On motion of Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Pareja, the minutes of the November 28, 2011, Human Rights and Human Relations Commission. **Ayes:** Gonzalez, Harris, Pareja, Sullivan, Burrus-Wright, Vice-Chair Brown, and Chairperson Feyer. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Commissioner Saunders.

OPEN FORUM

The following individuals gave public comment: Michael Robinson, Jackie Thompson, Amy Anderson, and Kazeem Olorode.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Councilmember Jovanka Beckles reported that the following organizations would be honored at the January 24, 2011, City Council meeting: Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA), Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), Neighborhood House of North Richmond, and The Latina Center. Human Rights and Human Relations Commission recommendation to the City Council regarding Code of Ethics passed on January 17, 2012.

STAFF REPORT

Everett Jenkins, Senior Assistant City Attorney, reported on a recent conference he had attended.

DISCUSSION

a. Report – Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS)

Commissioner Feyer reported that the Culture of Peace Committee has a meeting scheduled with DeVone Boggan - ONS Director, for February to discuss the ONS Draft 2011 Annual Report and he will report back to the Commission at its March meeting. All questions on the report should be submitted to the committee.

b. Endorsement – Health Care as Human Rights – SB 810 Single-Payer Universal Health Care

Nel Benningshof and Betty Brown of Healthcare for All Californians gave a presentation in support of SB 810 and requested HRHRC's endorsement of the bill. The following individuals gave public comment: Amy Anderson, Jackie Thompson, and Virginia Fuller. Discussion and comments continued. On motion of Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Pareja, approved the HRHRC's endorsement of Healthcare as Human Rights - SB 810: **Ayes:** Commissioners Gonzalez, Pareja, Sullivan, Brown, and Chairperson Feyer. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** Commissioners Harris and Burrus-Wright. **Absent:** Commissioner Saunders.

c. Committee Reports

- Code of Ethics
 - i. Commissioner Sullivan gave an overview of the presentation by the Commission to the City Council on January 17, 2012, regarding the Code of Ethics. Discussion and comments continued. **Commission Recessed at 7:50 pm and returned at 8:03 pm.** The following individual(s) gave public comment: Jackie Thompson. Commissioner of Sullivan was designated to communicate with Staff regarding arranging the reading of the Code of Ethics at City Council meetings.

- Culture of Peace
 - i. Chairperson Feyer reported that the Human Rights Day scheduled to take place in local area high schools was canceled. Discussion and comments continued.
 - ii. Chairperson Feyer stated she would report on the CEASEFIRE Project under the Chair's Report.

- Education and Outreach
 - i. Commissioner Burrus-Wright reported the following elementary schools would participate in the Artistically Write and Speak Aloud Project: Stege Elementary School, Riverside Elementary School, Olinda Elementary School, and César Chavez Elementary School. Discussion and comments continued. A special meeting of the HRHRC was confirmed for January 30, 2012, to receive student project presentations.
 - ii. Captain Anthony Williams, who had exited meeting earlier, returned to report that the second homicide of the year had just taken place.

- Employment
 - i. No report

- Community Concerns and Emergency Issues
 - i. Commissioner Sullivan reported that follow-up on the rights of patrons at restaurant establishments with drive-thru service had been initiated. The following individual(s) gave public comment: Jackie Thompson.

- HRHRC Budget
 - i. No report. Commissioner Pareja was placed on the Budget Committee.

d. Community-Police Relations: Building Increased Trust

Commissioner Sullivan reported that this item was formerly classified on the agenda as, 'Independent Investigations of our Police Department'. An ad hoc committee, which includes Captain Mark Gagan, Fredrick Muhammad, Pastor Washington, and Commissioner Sullivan, will receive feedback from the police department and report back to the commission. The following individual(s) gave public comment: Michael Robinson. Chairperson Feyer was placed on the ad hoc committee.

e. Support for National Occupy Day in Support of Prisoners, February 20, 2012 (President's Day)

Commissioner Sullivan announced and outlined the National Occupy Day event that is scheduled.

f. City of Richmond's Boards and Commission Meeting to Establish Better Communication

Commissioner Sullivan reported on the goals and benefits for establishing better communication between all the City's boards and commissions, and noted an initial meeting had been scheduled for March 7, 2012, from 12 pm to 3 pm. The following individual(s) gave public comment: Jackie Thompson. Discussion and comments continued. On motion of Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Brown, approved the extension of the HRHRC's meeting for 20 minutes. **Ayes:** Commissioners Sullivan, Pareja, Burrus-Wright, Brown, Gonzalez, Harris, and Chairperson Feyer. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Commissioner Saunders.

g. Establish Protocol for HRHR Commissioners' Communication with City Council and the Community

Commissioner Sullivan gave a brief overview and requested that the item be placed on the next regularly scheduled HRHRC's agenda. The following individual(s) gave public comment: Jackie Thompson.
(Commissioner Pareja requested that he be excused from the meeting.)

h. Salesians Boys and Girls Club/Ford Elementary School

Commissioner Sullivan provided brief background on the issues surrounding facilitating a meeting between the Salesians Boys and Girls Club and Ford Elementary School, whose properties' adjoin one another. Discussion and comments continued.

i. Scheduling of 2012 Commission Meetings

Chairperson Feyer noted that the fourth Monday of May is Memorial Day. On motion of Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Burrus-Wright, approved moving the regularly scheduled meeting on May 28th, to May 21st. **Ayes:** Commissioners Burrus-Wright, Harris, Gonzalez, Sullivan, Brown, and Chairperson Feyer.

Noes: None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Commissioners Saunders and Pareja.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 pm, due to lack of quorum, to meet again on Monday, January 30, 2012.

DRAFT