

**MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2008
7:00 P.M.
Council Chambers
34009 Alvarado-Niles Rd.
Union City, CA 94587**

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Meeting was convened at 7:04 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

Present:

Chairperson Pro Tem Hsu, Vice Chair Hsu, Commissioner Guio, Commissioner Cheema, Commissioner Duncan

Absent:

Chairperson Gates-Anderson (Excused), Commissioner Nadig (Excused), Commissioner Cabiles (Excused)

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes from the July 23, 2008 meeting

Commissioner Duncan moved to approve. Commissioner Cheema seconded.
Approved 4-0.

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Union City Councilmember Carol Dutra-Vernaci presented information on Measure UU.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Agenda and Minutes from Fremont HRC Meeting of July 21, 2008.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. ACTION ITEMS

- Union City 50th Anniversary Celebration – Presentation on All Activities by UC 50th President Helen Kennedy.

UC50th President Helen Kennedy gave a presentation on all activities related to the planning of the UC 50th celebration in 2009.

- Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention – Work Groups - Discussion

Commissioner Duncan reported that the Alameda County Outreach work team had a very productive meeting with AC Supervisor Gail Steele. Supervisor Steele suggested several areas of potential fundraising opportunities to explore. As a result, a larger collaborative meeting is planned that would include several key people from Alameda County.

In addition, consideration was given to the possibility of implementing local dialog and focus groups with parents of kids currently experiencing challenges within the system. The purpose is to get a sense from those involved of how they might be better supported. The work team will assemble and work on a series of action items that will keep that process moving forward.

Commissioner Hsu noted the Service Providers work team progress had been impacted by extensive travel by many of the members, but a meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 28. They will be reviewing a resource list compiled by UCPD Captain Kevin Finnerty.

Commissioner Guio added that Jaime Jaramillo, Executive Director for Centro de Servicios had joined the AC Outreach work group and will be developing a list of some of the support groups that Centro has used in the past.

Commissioner Cheema noted the Youth Employment work team attempted to contact Union leaders, but progress has been slowed due to conflicting work schedules.

- HRC Configuration – Expansion to 7 Members - Update

Deputy City Manager Tony Acosta reported that the Union City Councilmembers unanimously approved the first reading of the ordinance that would restore the Human Relations Commission to its initial size of 7 members at the Council Meeting of August 26, 2008. He further stated that it is expected the second reading of the ordinance will be unanimously consented to at the Council Meeting scheduled for September 9, 2008. If approved, the ordinance would take effect 30 days thereafter and the final appointment resolution would appear on the City Council agenda for their October 14, 2008 meeting. It is also expected that the Council would

appoint the current alternate commissioners to full commissioner status and conduct a recruitment to fill two alternate commissioner positions.

- Final Review Draft of Revised HRC Brochure – Discussion

Commissioner Cheema requested a few changes to the biographical information appearing under her name on the draft brochure.

Commissioner Duncan suggested that with a few minor edits, the brochure should be printed and stated that a limited print run to begin with would be a good idea. There was a suggestion to add a PDF-version to the City's website.

Commissioner Hsu directed any final edits be forwarded to staff by September 3, 2008.

- City Budget Update (added by staff)

DCM Acosta reported that the City's 911 Fee appeal to the Supreme Court was not going to be heard. The State Court of Appeals will return this issue to the trial court for publication of the ruling. This would officially rule the 911 Fee invalid. The City will not be waiting for the publication of the ruling, but instead will proactively notify the plaintiffs and all phone companies collecting the 911 Fee on behalf of the City with instructions to cease and desist collection. The City is also developing a refund procedure which will be done on an active outreach basis.

The City Manager has been reviewing city-wide budget reductions. Even though the 911 Fees that were collected went specifically to the Police and Fire Departments, they will not shoulder the entire burden created by the loss of these fees. The Council will be presented with a number of budget-balancing recommendations at their meeting on September 9, 2008.

The impact on the HRC will be the elimination of discretionary budgets for City commissions. However, stipend payments to commissioners will continue uninterrupted at the current rate. The recommended budget cuts will impact the second year of the City's two-year budget and will be in effect until the end of the current Fiscal Year (ending June 30, 2009).

B. TRACKING ITEMS

- Sister Cities Program

Commissioner Lee Guio reported this year's Sister City Festival was a success, raising funds that will be used, in part, to benefit the UC50th Celebration. He also noted that there is an effort to get delegations from the various sister cities to attend some of the UC50th events.

- Union City's 50th Update

This tracking item was covered earlier in the agenda with the presentation of UC50th President Helen Kennedy.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

None

IX. FUTURE AGENDA

Action Items:

Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention – Work Groups– Update
HRC Configuration – Expansion to 7 Members - Update
Budget – Update
National Night Out – Report
Make A Difference Day

Tracking Items:

Sister Cities Program
Union City's 50th Anniversary Celebration – Update

X. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

XI. GOOD OF THE ORDER

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.