

**MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2011
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 Harper, Commissioner Abanico, Commissioner, Commissioner Cheema, Commissioner Hsu, Commissioner Kaur

Absent:

Vice Chair Pettey (Excused) and Commissioner Smeester (Excused)

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes from the July 27, 2011 and August 24, 2011 meetings

July Minutes: Commissioner Cheema moved to approved. Commissioner Hsu seconded. Approved 5-0.

August Minutes: Commissioner Cheema moved to approve. Commissioner Kaur seconded. Approved 5-0.

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Agenda from the September 19, 2011 Fremont Human Relations Commission meeting and minutes from the July 18, 2011 meeting.

Email from Commissioner Smeester stating she would not be in attendance due to illness. She also noted her selection for the volunteer award to be presented at the October HRC meeting.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

Fremont Family Resource Center (FRC)

The Fremont Family Resource Center (FRC) was unable to send a representative to the meeting.

Mr. Ahmad Zamani of the Afghan Kunar Sister City Committee was able to make a last-minute presentation to the HRC. The presentation was informational only and the commission took no action, since this was not an agenda item.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

The commissioners received hard copies of the revised HRC brochure.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Community Involvement

Commissioner Reports

- Safety, Public Health, Support Services
 - Family Resource Center – Commissioner Hsu noted the Family Resource Center is a place where Union City and Newark residents can access services such as assistance with Medical applications, housing assistance, WIC, and other services. The FRC is about to start a lending circle project in October 2011.
 - Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center – Vice Chair Pettey was not in attendance to report on this item.
 - Life Eldercare – Chairperson Harper asked if this item should continue to appear on future agendas. After a short discussion,
 - Alameda County Public Health Commission – Vice Chair Pettey was not in attendance to report on this item.
 - Alameda County Hep B Initiative – Vice Chair Pettey was not in attendance to report on this item.
 - Family Support for Mental Health & Special Needs – Commissioner Smeester was not in attendance to report on this item.

- Youth

- YVPIP – Chairperson Harper reported the last meeting was September 7, 2011. She stated that the Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program is out in the community building trusting relationships with people and that the individuals involved in the program are passionate and dedicated.
- Juvenile Justice – Commissioner Hsu reported she received information that the Tri-City Youth Court has a new director, although she has not been in contact with them.
- Youth Commission – Commissioner Abanico reported the meeting with Ariel Leary of Union City Leisure Services has been set up and he will report the status of that meeting at the next HRC meeting.

Commissioner Cheema asked if the interview process has been completed for the new Youth Commissioners. DCM Acosta stated the recruitment process is continuing and new applicants should be found in the near future.

- Community Outreach

- Pastors Alliance – Commissioner Cheema reported there was an observation of International Peace Day on September 21, 2011 at Lake Elizabeth Park in Fremont.
- Youth & Family Resource Center – Commissioner Abanico reported the next meeting of the task force will be Monday, October 3, 2011. The group visited Youth Uprising in Oakland. DCM Acosta provided some background on the Youth Uprising program and facility.
- Equity Task Force – Vice Chair Pettey was not in attendance to report on this item.
- Kids Zone – The discussion was combined with the Youth & Family Resource Center item.
- Sister Cities – Commissioner Cheema stated there was nothing to report.
- 1st Annual HRC Community Event

Commissioner Kaur reported she met with Helen Kennedy at the Flight 93 Remembrance event on September 11, 2011, but did not have the chance for much discussion. A meeting to discuss the community event with Ms. Kennedy is scheduled for Friday, October 7, 2011.

HRC Planning

- 'Unity Through Community' Event – Kennedy Park, September 8, 2012
 - Event Committee Organized-Abanico/Cheema
 - Fundraising Update
 - Volunteer Update
 - Diverse Groups
 - Food and Entertainment

Commissioner Kaur stated an ongoing meeting of the event committee has been established.

Volunteer Recognition

October meeting in conjunction with "Make a Difference Day" - Awards will be presented at the October HRC meeting.

- Commissioner nominations

Chairperson Harper stated the awards should be called the "Make A Difference in the Community Award" since not all nominees are actually volunteers.

Commissioner Abanico will recognize Jim Soltau, Youth Minister for St. Anne's Catholic Church in Union City.

Commissioner Hsu will recognize Marvin Bowerman, staff counselor at the Fremont Family Resource Center, the Administrative Director of La Honda Music Camp, and Cub Scout Den Leader and Unit Commissioner of Cub Scout Pack 268 in Union City.

Chairperson Harper noted that Vice Chair Pettey will recognize Juan Gomez, Board President for Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center. She also noted that Commissioner Smeester will recognize Chris Valuckas of Union City Leisure Services.

Commissioner Cheema will recognize Cynthia (Cindie) Alonso-Sierra, a retired Vocational Rehabilitation counselor with 20 years of community service and activism in Union City.

Commissioner Kaur will recognize Makhan Singh Bains, successful local businessman and long-time major donor to Union City community events and organizations.

Chairperson Harper will recognize Richard Valle, President and CEO of Tri-CED Community Recycling, California's largest non-profit community recycling company.

A discussion by the HRC on the procedure for presenting the awards at the next meeting followed. Commissioner Abanico volunteered to get the refreshments for the reception to honor the MADIC award winners.

X. FUTURE AGENDA

October Presentations: Presentation of Make A Difference in the Community (MADIC) Awards

December Presentations: Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention Program and possibly Kids Zone or Life Eldercare

Community Involvement

Commissioner Reports

- Safety, Public Health, Support Services
 - Family Resource Center (Hsu)
 - Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center (Petty)
 - Life Eldercare (Open)
 - Alameda County Public Health Commission (Hsu)
 - Alameda County Hep B Initiative (Petty)
 - Family Support for Mental Health & Special Needs (Smeester)

- Youth
 - YVPIP (Harper)
 - Juvenile Justice
 - Youth Commission (Cheema, Abanico)
 - Status of Joint Meeting Plans

- Community Outreach
 - Pastor's Alliance (Cheema)
 - Youth & Family Resource Center (Abanico)
 - Equity Task Force (Petty)
 - Kids Zone (Smeester)
 - Sister Cities (Cheema)
 - 1st Annual HRC Community Event (Kaur)

HRC Planning

- Unity through Community Event – Kennedy Park, September 8, 2012
 - Event Committee Organized
 - Fundraising Update
 - Volunteer Update
 - Diverse Groups
 - Food and Entertainment

XI. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

XII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

XIII. NEXT HRC MEETINGS

October 26, 2011 and December 7, 2011

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.