

**CITY OF MESA**  
**HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)**  
**Ad Hoc Youth Diversity Education Team (YDET)**  
December 18, 2013 Minutes

The Youth Diversity Education Team of Mesa met on December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013,  
at 5:00pm at the Mesa City Plaza, 20 E. Main St. Ste. 250.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Susan Lotz, Chair  
Denise Heap  
Talmage Pearce

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Arenas

GUESTS

1. Call to Order.

Ms. Lotz called the meeting to order at 5:10pm.

2. Items from citizens present.

There were no citizens who requested to speak to YDET.

3. Approval of minutes from the November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 YDET meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Heap to approve the November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 minutes, Mr. Pearce seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Hear, discuss and take action on Cinema Series program in high schools as means of educating youth on diversity related issues.

Ms. Lotz advised that she was unable to review the films in time. Mr. Pearce and Ms. Heap divided the selections to be reviewed prior to the next meeting. Ms. Arenas announced that staff will be able to provide more information on communication with the Dobson High School contact at the next meeting as well.

5. Discuss, consider and take action on an interactive blog on diversity.

Ms. Lotz stated that she conducted research by looking at what other cities are using as means of interacting with youth about diversity on the web. Ms. Lotz explained that she did not find a similar program, but was intrigued with the iMesa application and the ability for public feedback. Ms. Lotz suggested the creation of a diversity related version of the iMesa application. Ms. Arenas advised that considerations would need to be made for who would be addressing and responding to the feedback. Ms. Arenas also stated that this format would be more fitting for board related concerns as it would be difficult to target their desired youth perspective. Ms. Heap agreed that an open forum where the public can submit topics of concern for the board to review or consider would be a positive platform but could be difficult to manage. Mr. Pearce stated that he prefers a forum that also offers an educational component as well as feedback.

Ms. Heap stated that she has information on how to administrate an interactive class online in which YDET members could plan one lesson a month. Ms. Heap also suggested that the contact the City of Tempe for information about their Teen Diversity Dialogues series. Mr. Pearce recommended a monthly lesson posting on online etiquette. Ms. Lotz questioned how an interactive class/ blog format would function. Ms. Arenas advised that staff would be responsible for the administration through the city but the YDET members would

be responsible for content and interacting with the responders. Ms. Arenas stated they will speak with the appropriate staff in order to provide more information during the next meeting regarding operating such a site.

6. Discuss, consider and take action on Mesa Police Department's M.E.S.A. project.

Ms. Arenas advised that Ray Villa, Mesa Police Department Community Partner Coordinator, has an update on the M.E.S.A. program that he would like to share with IRA at their next meeting. IRA members agreed to have Mr. Villa present at the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

7. Discuss, consider and take action on plans for contacting school clubs and organizations.

Ms. Lotz stated that she reached out to Red Mountain High School but has yet to receive a response. Ms. Heap suggested that they speak with the students and advisors directly at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Ms. Heap recommended that contact be made with the Mesa MLK Committee to obtain a copy of the list of schools/clubs scheduled to participate. YDET members agreed on this course of action for contacting the school clubs and will draft a game plan (i.e. brief introduction and statement of intent, proposed questions) during the next meeting. The objective of the contact will be to find out what the clubs/organizations are doing to break down barriers, how HRAB/ YDET can help in terms of diversity education, what diversity topics interest youth and what the best means for distributing information to youth is (do they like the existing plan).

8. Discuss future agenda items, meeting dates, announcements, other housekeeping.

- Next YDET meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 5pm.

9. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,  
Diversity Program Administrator