

CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
Ad Hoc Youth Diversity Education Team (YDET)
November 13, 2013 Minutes

The Youth Diversity Education Team of Mesa met on November 13th, 2013,
at 5:00pm at the Mesa City Plaza, 20 E. Main St. Ste. 250.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Susan Lotz, Chair
Denise Heap

MEMBERS ABSENT

Talmage Pearce

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Arenas
Ruth Giese

GUESTS

1. Call to Order.

Ms. Lotz called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.

2. Items from citizens present.

There were no citizens who requested to speak to YDET.

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

Ms. Giese advised that contact was made with the instructor from Dobson High School regarding the proposed pilot program. A concern from the instructor was the length of the films, so it was suggested that they be viewed in advance for an appropriate stopping point after 30-40 minutes. The instructor plans to reach out to students involved with various clubs on campus as part of the target audience. Mr. Lotz agreed to view the films from the spring Cinema Series in order to review them for recommendations at the next meeting. Ms. Heap will begin contact with the instructor to determine some of the logistics (ex. best time/ date for the students, location). At the next YDET meeting, members plan to select a film and begin research on post-screening discussion topics.

4. Hear, discuss and consider the work previously done on bullying and determine course of action.

Ms. Heap provided an update on her research regarding bullying from the Anti-Defamation League, Sorenson Sisters and from a national website offering a toolkit for educators. Ms. Heap also stated that the wife of the Mayor from the City of Phoenix, Mrs. Stanton, is leading an anti-bullying effort. Ms. Lotz suggested having an online forum, social media or blog that reaches out to students since they are limited in what you can be done directly in the schools schools. Staff advised that the board can have a blog, social media site or newsletter type of format linked to their City of Mesa HRAB webpage, but it would need to be maintained by the board. Staff suggested for plans be drafted detailing the logistics and management for communication forum such as: what type of format, what information would be distributed, would it include information from the entire board or just this committee, who would maintain, how often would information be distributed (i.e. weekly/monthly/quarterly). Ms. Lotz felt that an e-newsletter is too outdated but then also agreed that it may be an easier first step just to get info out there. YDET members agreed to conduct research on other sites and means of distributing information in order to determine the best course of action.

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

Board members agreed to continue their research in order to discuss at their next meeting.

6. Discuss and consider identifying organizations as partners of the Youth Diversity Education Team.

Ms. Heap suggested that they reach out to schools and PTO's in order to reach out to the various school clubs and organizations.

7. Scheduling of meetings, future agenda items, and general information.

- Next YDET meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 11th, 2013 at 5pm.

8. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,
Diversity Program Administrator