

CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
Ad Hoc ISSUES RESEARCH AND ACTION TEAM (IRA)
April 24, 2013 Minutes

The Issues Research and Action Team of the City of Mesa met on April 24th, 2013, at 5:00pm.
in the Lower Level, City Council Chambers, 57 E. First Street.

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>	<u>GUESTS</u>
Denise Heap, Chair	Orchidia Peterson	Andrea Arenas	
Lela Hinds-Peterson	Cliff Moon	Ruth Giese	
Frank Johnson			

1. Call to Order.

Ms. Heap called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

2. Items from citizens present.

There were no citizens who requested to speak to IRA.

3. Approval of the April 11th, 2013 IRA meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Hinds-Peterson to approve April 11th, 2013 minutes and Mr. Johnson seconded. Ms. Heap noted there was an addition for agenda item #4, where she had mentioned that the only potential discrimination would be the definition of an individual versus a corporation; however the board is not the correct affiliate to make that determination. The motion carried unanimously with the correction.

4. Hear update on the research, discuss and take action on the creation of anti- harassment and non-discrimination ordinances for the City of Mesa.

Ms. Giese stated that she has reached out to Salt Lake City staff for more information on the 2009 community dialogues, but has been unsuccessful. Ms. Giese stated that she will continue to reach out in order to address questions previously asked by IRA members; however the concept and initial planning can move forward if this is the direction they would like to go. Ms. Heap agreed that there are items that they could begin working on such as deciding on a facilitator, compiling survey questions, determining dates and times, and how to advertise. Mr. Johnson made a motion to begin work on community dialogues pertaining to discrimination. Ms. Hinds-Peterson seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

5. Hear update on the research, discuss and take action on preparing language referencing the City of Mesa being an employer of choice for veterans.

Ms. Giese advised that staff has confirmed that the City of Mesa already utilizes a points system according to Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) 38-492, where preference points are awarded on an initial scored exam to qualified applicants under four major categories: veteran, disabled veteran, veteran's spouse or surviving spouse, and handicapped person. Ms. Giese stated that a recommendation can be made in conjunction with the standard point system already in place to encourage supervisors to take additional efforts with veteran applicants that meet the minimum requirements. Mr. Johnson made a motion to move forward with the recommendation, Ms. Hinds-Peterson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- Next meeting will be held on May 9th, 2013 at 5pm.

Due to staff scheduling conflicts, the next meeting date was rescheduled for May 16th, 2013 at 5:30pm.

7. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:19pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,
Diversity Program Administrator