

HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD
August 24, 2011 MINUTES

The Human Relations Advisory Board of the City of Mesa met in a regular Human Relations Advisory Board Meeting August 24, 2011, 6:00 p.m. in the Lower Level, City Council Chambers, 57 E. First Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT

James May, Chair
Rory Gilbert, Vice Chair
Hong Chartrand
Denise Heap
Frank Johnson
Wayne Manske
Orchidia Peterson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Terry Benelli
Ana Cadillo
Stacey Dillon
Lela Hinds-Peterson

STAFF PRESENT

Ruth Giese

GUESTS

Kathy Macdonald

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Mr. May welcomed the board, presenters and citizens present. He asked Ruth Giese, new Diversity Program Administrator, to introduce herself. Ms. Giese gave a brief summary of her background.

2. Items from citizens present.

There were no citizens who requested to speak to the board.

3. Approval of minutes from the May 25, 2011 board meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Gilbert to approve the May 25, 2011; Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) minutes with a correction to item number five. Ms. Heap seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Recognition of Board's significant efforts related to the Utah/Mesa Compact by Kathy Macdonald, Chief of Staff of Mayor Scott Smith.

Ms. Macdonald advised that on behalf of Mayor Smith, she wanted to thank the board members for their service and hard work serving on the board. Ms. MacDonald wanted to deliver a message of thanks for studying the immigration issue in Mesa. The board provided a process to give citizens an opportunity to express their feelings about immigration. She also stated that Mayor Smith was truly thankful and acknowledges everything that HRAB is trying to accomplish. The Board's work is important to community and the City is supportive of the board's efforts.

5. Hear report from Chair on meeting with Mayor Smith regarding the Utah/Mesa Compact.

Mr. May reported that he and Ms. Gilbert met with Mayor Smith regarding the Utah/Mesa Compact. At that meeting, Mr. May summarized that at its May 25th meeting, HRAB moved to forward and recommend the Mesa Compact to City Council, including the opportunity to have the HRAB hold a community conversation event(s) for residents wishing to express concerns and find common ground. In addition the HRAB had moved to endorse and adopt the Mesa Compact as a board.

Mr. May also reported that Mayor addressed his concerns regarding what the City Council and community as a whole will do with the work product of the board regarding the Mesa Compact. Mayor discussed timing of discussion given political climate today and was concerned that the message not be hijacked by the current political process.

Ms. Gilbert stated that the Utah Compact was a creation of the community, not government driven. In the meeting, it was discussed whether the Mesa Compact needed to be a community process and for citizens to be champions to continue the conversation. Concerns were more in the how to move forward in the current political climate. Ms. Gilbert further discussed that the Board would wait and hear back from Mayor Smith once he had the opportunity to explore what options there may be to continue the process.

Mr. May discussed that the meeting was positive and that options may be getting more stakeholders engaged in discussion, and that while the board may receive a more formal recognition of the work in the future; it does not preclude HRAB from moving forward to create dialogue and developing community forums.

Ms. Gilbert stated that the board has been catalyst to what is going on in other communities. The Regional Human Relations Commission is appreciative of Mesa's work, and many communities are looking to Mesa as a model. Ms. Gilbert stated that the board should take the dialogue to the streets and continue the work.

6. Discuss and provide direction on Board sponsorship of "A Community Conversation on Immigration" which will be held September 27, 2011 at Mesa Community College, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Gilbert discussed that the Board has the opportunity to sponsor of an upcoming event about a conversation on immigration. She proposed that members of the board attend. A motion was made by Ms. Gilbert to sponsor "A Community Conversation on Immigration". Ms. Heap seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
James May, Chair	Yes
Rory Gilbert, Vice Chair	Yes
Hong Chartrand	Yes
Denise Heap	Yes
Frank Johnson	Yes
Wayne Manske	Yes
Orchidia Peterson	Yes

7. Hear an update, discuss and provide direction on items presented by the:

- a. Ad Hoc Community and Education Project Team.

1) Hear a report on any updates and on scheduling meetings for 2011/12 year.

Ms. Gilbert requested that current members be asked to set up a convenient time to meet. Ms. Gilbert asked Ms. Giese to schedule a meeting.

- b. Ad Hoc Marketing and Communications Project Team.

1) Hear a report on any updates and on scheduling meetings for 2011/12 year.

No report was given.

8. Discuss and vote on the selection of the position of Chair and Vice Chair for 2011/2012.

The board discussed the process of selecting the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. Ms. Petersen recommended tabling the vote for Chair and Vice Chair until September. Mr. Manske seconded. Discussion was had and passed unanimously as follows:

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
James May, Chair	Yes
Rory Gilbert, Vice Chair	Yes
Hong Chartrand	Yes
Denise Heap	Yes
Frank Johnson	Yes
Wayne Manske	Yes
Orchidia Peterson	Yes

9. Diversity Officer's Report:

Ms. Giese provided information about the upcoming Community Cinema Series, which will be held each month from September to May at the Mesa Arts Center. Details can be found at www.mesaaz.gov/diversity. The first movie will be shown on September 22, 1011 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Giese also asked that the board members consider moderating a film.

10. Report on recently attended and upcoming conferences and/or meetings.

Ms. Gilbert reported on events upcoming in September and October. Ms. Gilbert also reported on the annual Diversity Leadership Alliance annual conference on October 19, 2011. Ms. Petersen reported on several events upcoming at the City of Gilbert. Ms. Chartrand reported that Mesa Sister Cities Committee will host its annual concert on September 9, 2001 at Mesa Arts Center. Informational materials about these events could be sent to Ms. Giese to forward to the board.

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

Mr. May reported on Valley Metro Mobility Center and that it would be an opportunity for the organization to provide an update to the Board on their activities at a future meeting. Ms. Heap discussed that in October is National Coming Out Day. Ms. Gilbert asked that an agenda item regarding commemorative months be placed on the agenda in September. Ms. Heap also discussed placing an item to discuss honoring veterans.

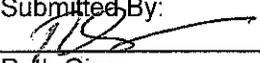
The board discussed scheduling its Strategic Planning Session along with its regular meeting in September. The board provided two dates and asked Ms. Giese to find a meeting room and ask all the board members about the best date.

12. Adjourn

Mr. May thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:15 p.m.

***The next regular meeting is on September 24, 2011, at 8:30 a.m.
100 N. Center Street***

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,
Diversity Program Administrator