

CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
Ad Hoc Issue Research and Action Team (IRA)
December 19, 2013 Minutes

The Issue Research and Action Team of the City of Mesa met on December 19th, 2013,
at 5:00pm at the Mesa City Plaza, 20 E. Main St. Ste. 250.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cliff Moon, Chair
Denise Heap
Frank Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Arenas
Ruth Giese

GUESTS

David Daugherty

1. Call to Order.

Mr. Moon 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 minutes from the December 4th, 2013 IRA meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Heap to approve the December 4th, 2013 minutes with the correction that they rescinded the November 21st, 2013 meeting minutes as opposed to approving them. Mr. Moon seconded the motion with corrections, Mr. Johnson abstained. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Hear, discuss, and take action on the collaboration with Morrison Institute on the community survey.

Mr. Daugherty with Morrison Institute for Public Policy at Arizona State University, working in collaboration with Behavioral Research Center, presented a second draft of the proposed telephonic survey. Mr. Daugherty explained that survey participants will be selected to represent a microcosm of Mesa residents 18 years or older within a 3% accuracy rate. Participants selected will partake in a 10 minute survey (or less) gauging their thoughts on Mesa's diversity tolerance and inclusion. When applicable, surveyors will rotate question responses to prevent an order effect (bias towards an answer due to the order in which it is listed). IRA members reviewed the survey questionnaire and provided feedback on wording selection. Morrison institute will make the appropriate changes for the final draft. Mr. Daugherty stated that the survey will begin in January 2014.

5. Discuss and take action on the Mesa Speaks, Mesa Listens: Community Conversations on Discrimination series:

- Community conversation facilitator training and selection of facilitators.

Ms. Giese reported on the response from Ms. Kurtz, third party consultant assisting with the dialogue events, regarding IRA's listed concerns. Ms. Kurtz advised that a she would be able to work within the proposed timeline. Facilitator training would be best scheduled within days of the first dialogue event so it fresh in the mind of the facilitators. The training itself would only last approximately 90 minutes.

- Dialogue data collection instrument (e.g. note taking skills, note taking strategies, facilitator interpretation of what is being said by dialogue participants).

Ms. Giese conveyed Ms. Kurtz's recent facilitation with similar set up. Note takers used laptops or flipcharts if they were not technically savvy, and they will be advised on what information to record.

- Confidentiality of dialogue responses (e.g. pledge, norms/rules, guidelines for sharing of information).

Ms. Giese informed that Ms. Kurtz does not recommend a pledge or privacy form seeing that participants are attending public meetings. Ms. Kurtz recommends an opening statement asking for sensitivity towards topics that may be painful, but counsels attendees to only disclose information that they are comfortable doing in a public setting. For example, first names can be disclosed without giving up their anonymity.

- Evaluating the success/lack of success of the dialogues (participant evaluation of dialogues).

Mr. Moon asked staff to question Ms. Kurtz if she recommends obtaining post dialogue feedback and whether she has an existing evaluation form.

- Proposed schedule of date/times and locations.

Staff provided a draft list of dates (between March-May) and community locations for the board members to consider. One weekend date was recommended in which volunteers would need to be available to provide child friendly activities. Ms. Heap suggested a location within walking distance of the Escobedo neighborhood. Ms. Giese asked the board members to send names and contact information for alternative locations that should be considered. Considerations should also be made for the neutrality of the locations, amount of events being held and whether events will continue to be broken up by themes (types of discrimination) as previously discussed. The team also noted that the first event will be considered their 'kickoff' and would need to be in a highly visible and accessible location in order to attract attendance.

6. Hear, discuss and take action on diversity speaker's bureau as a community resource.

IRA members agreed to table the discussion pending follow up from staff.

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

- Next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16th, 2014 at 5:00pm.

8. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,
Diversity Program Administrator