

CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
Ad Hoc ISSUES RESEARCH AND ACTION TEAM (IRA)
November 15, 2012 Minutes

The Issues Research and Action Team of the City of Mesa met on November 15th, 2012, at 5:00pm.
at the Mesa City Plaza, 20 E. Main St. Ste. 250.

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>	<u>GUESTS</u>
Denise Heap	Jaime Aguirre	Ruth Giese	Ray Villa
Lela Hinds-Peterson	Frank Johnson		
Cliff Moon			
Orchidia Peterson			

1. Call to Order.

Ms. Heap called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

2. Items from citizens present.

There were no citizens who requested to speak to IRA.

3. Approval of the September 11th, 2012 IRA meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson to approve the September 11th, 2012 minutes. Mr. Moon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of the October 24th, 2012 IRA meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson to approve the October 24th, 2012 minutes. Ms. Hinds-Peterson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Discuss and consider recommendations in response to the pending report on domestic partner benefits for City employees.

In response to a question from Ms. Heap, Ms. Giese advised that although a request had been made to Human Resources Department (HR) regarding a report on domestic partners benefits, a request was made by HR to postpone research until January 2013. IRA discussed the board resubmit the request if still interested. Mr. Moon asked for background information on what has already been done. Ms. Heap provided a brief summary on previous research and inquiry for this topic. Ms. Heap made a motion that the board approach HR for a study to be done to extend city employee benefits for domestic partners. Ms. Peterson questioned what would happen if there was a cost to perform a needs- assessment summary. In response, Ms. Heap stated that the topic would be readdressed at that time. Mr. Villa informed the board that both the Police and Fire Departments have Labor contracts and any proposed changes would need to be included in that. Ms. Peterson seconded the motion.

6. Discuss, consider and take action on the creation of an anti-harassment ordinance for the City of Mesa.

There was nothing to report on this item.

7. Discuss, consider and take action on the creation of a non-discrimination ordinance for the City of Mesa.

There was nothing to report on this item.

8. Hear update, discuss and take action on a Cesar Chavez March.

There was nothing to report on this item.

9. Hear update, discuss and take action on implementing Diversity Champion Awards.

There was nothing to report on this item.

10. Discuss and consider best practices best practices for community response to hate crimes as it relates to a specific neighborhood currently experiencing hate crimes and in creating/adopting a community-wide model such as the Not In Our Town program.

- Hear update, discuss and take action on Northpointe 1 HOA meeting

Ms. Hinds- Peterson advised that she has been attempting to contact the HOA to confirm a meeting date. Ms. Heap suggested that she also reach out to Terry Benelli, a resident within the HOA, as a good contact. Mr. Moon inquired on background information regarding contact from the HOA. Ms. Giese advised that the HOA president contacted the City of Mesa requesting assistance on addressing hate crimes within the neighborhood.

- Hear update from Mesa Police Department on Northpointe 1 HOA

Mr. Villa advised that the woman involved in the crime in this particular HOA had been arrested and is pending a 60 day jail sentence. He also advised that the Police Department has a Detective available to educate residents if a new meeting date is scheduled.

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

The next IRA meeting will be held on November 28th, 2012 at 5pm.

12. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,
Diversity Program Administrator