
**CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
March 28, 2018 Minutes**

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on March 28, 2018
at 6:00pm in the Lower Level City Council Chambers at 57 E 1st St.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cliff Moon- Chair
Colleen Byron- Vice-Chair
Alvaro Gonzalez
Nadia Khalighi
Silvia Stanford
Mark Tompert
Keola Tweedy

MEMBERS ABSENT

Joseph Holmes
Cassandra Sampson
Louis Wade

STAFF PRESENT

Bethany Freeland
Ruth Giese
Ray Villa

GUESTS

1. Chair's Call to Order'

Dr. Moon called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

2. Items from Citizens Present. *

There were no citizens present who wished to speak to the Board.

3. Approval of minutes from the February 28, 2018 Board meeting.

Mr. Tompert made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 28, 2018 Board meeting.
Ms. Tweedy seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Discuss and make recommendations on Mesa Police Department (MPD) Monthly Community Engagement Report.

(4a) Updates on Diversity related police incidents and activities.

MPD held an event at the Ranch Market on Stapley and Southern Ave. The event focused on reaching out the Hispanic community in Mesa. Neighborhood Outreach, Code Compliance, Solid Waste, and Mesa Fire were also in attendance. Mesa Fire hosted CPR training and allowed attendees to try on fire gear. There was also a fire truck and patrol car. On Saturday, March 31, 2018 the MPD will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt at Reed Park. There will also be food and entertainment for children. On April 4, 2018, MPD will be attending the Continuing to Sacrifice for Our Future event at the Evident Life Church. It is a remembrance of the 50th anniversary of the assassination of

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. On April 8, 2018 the MPD will have representatives at the Phoenix Pride Parade.

Mr. Villa told the Board about the upcoming Mass Casualty Training (Active Shooter Training) that the MPD will be participating in. He stated that they are actively looking for volunteers to come to the event. Volunteers can be asked to participate in being shot in a mock scenario. The training gives participants tools on how to respond and react to this potential type of situation. Ms. Stanford asked what days and times these trainings take place. Mr. Villa stated they are typically held from 1- 4pm on weekdays at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Dr. Moon queried if there would be a pre and post emotional assessment to make sure participants are able to participate in the training without suffering emotional trauma. He stated that there wasn't. Mr. Villa stated that he would send the flyer to Ms. Freeland so that she can distribute it to the rest of the Board.

(4b) Updates on scheduling of upcoming Police Advisory Board meeting.

The Asian Advisory Board Meeting will be held on April 10, 2018 at the Mesa Fiesta Substation. This will include a planning meeting for an event that will be held at Mekong Plaza on April 28, 2018 that will focus on outreach to the local Asian community.

(4b-1) Updates on a meeting of the LGBTQ (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Questioning) Community Forum.

Officer Amanda Stamps will be the leader of the LGBTQ Community Forum. There are preparations underway for a meeting to happen in April 2018. Mr. Villa asked if the Board would like to be listed as a partner for the meeting. He stated that this would be a show of support and that representatives of the Board should be there to respond to questions. Ms. Giese reminded that Board that it is important for them to communicate who will be attending so that the Diversity Office can post a Public Meeting Notice if applicable. Dr. Byron asked that the specific date of the meeting be communicated to Ms. Freeland as soon as possible so that the Board members can prepared to attend.

5. Discuss and take action on meeting with various educational institutions to assess strides being made to address diversity issues within schools.

Dr. Moon informed the Board that he prepared a draft letter for the Board to look over and suggest changes. Dr. Byron asked who the intended target of the letter is. Dr. Moon said it should be sent to the administrators of all local Mesa schools, including public charter schools. Ms. Giese suggested that the time and dates that the Board meets should be included in the letter. Dr. Byron suggested that the studies referenced should be moved to the bottom of the paragraphs so as to not lose the intended request of the letter. Ms. Giese stated that the letter should be first sent to Dr. Michael Cowan of Mesa Public Schools to inform him of the Board's intentions.

Mr. Tompert made a motion to approve the letter with the discussed changes. Dr. Byron seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Discuss and take action on meeting with LGBTQ community members to build relationships for future partnerships.

Dr. Byron suggested that the Board remain supportive of the MPD's efforts to begin a LGBTQ Community Forum and then discuss further action once the forum is established.

7. Discuss and take action on the development of community fairs and events such as, but not limited to, a Police and Community Coming Together Fair, Women's Empowerment Event, and a Youth Peace Building Summit (YPBS).

Dr. Moon thanked Ms. Freeland and Dr. Byron for their participation and contributions to the Women's Empowerment Summit. He also recognized Devon Polynone of Mesa Community College for her role in the organization of the Summit. Dr. Byron thanked Dr. Moon for his work organizing the event. Dr. Moon informed that Board that there were great panelist who participated and that the surveys from the event indicated that attendees gained a lot from the experience.

The 3rd Youth Peace Building Summit is scheduled to take place at Benedictine University Mesa on April 14, 2018. A planning meeting for this event took place immediately following the Board meeting.

Dr. Byron wondered what is being done about the idea of a Police and Community Coming Together Fair. Ms. Freeland reminded the Board that during the January 2018 HRAB meeting, the Board surmised that the MPD is at the forefront of community engagement and that planning a fair of this nature would be redundant in the face of the programs that they already host. It was suggested that this event be removed from this agenda item since it is not being pursued by the Board at this time. Ms. Tweedy asked if the item should remain on the agenda so that it is the forefront of everyone's mind as a concept to support. Dr. Byron said that this particular agenda item refers specifically to an event and as such, can be removed. Ms. Khalighi informed the Board that the MPD supports a police and family event that has a "fair" type set-up. Ms. Tweedy asked Ms. Khalighi when this was held and she did not remember. Ms. Freeland said she would follow up with Mr. Villa about the event. It was decided to leave this item on the agenda until more information can be obtained from Mr. Villa.

8. Scheduling of meetings, future agenda items, general information, and Board attendees at upcoming meetings and events including those set forth below.

(10a) Next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 6PM in the Lower Level City Council Chambers (57 E 1st St).

(10b) 2018 Pride Parade to be held on Sunday, April 8, 2018 beginning at 3rd St and Thomas. Parade step off begins at 10AM.

(10c) Indie Lens Pop-Up! film screening of *Look & See: Wendell Berry's Kentucky* to be held on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 7PM at Benedictine University Mesa (225 E Main st).

- (10d) 3rd Youth Peace Building Summit to be held on Saturday, April 14, 2018 from 8AM to 4PM at Benedictine University Mesa (225 E Main St).
- (10e) Celebrate Mesa is being held on Saturday, April 14, 2018 from 10AM to 2PM at Pioneer Park (526 E Main St).

Ms. Freeland informed the Board that she has several updates for them. There will be an LGBTQ Fair Housing Expo in the fall of 2018. She stated that she would inform the Board of the specific date, time, and format of the expo once she receives that information. April will mark the 50th anniversary of Fair Housing month and Mayor Giles will be issuing a proclamation. There will also be a Fair Housing Poverty Simulation Training hosted by City of Mesa in conjunction with A.T. Stills University on April 30, 2018. Dr. Moon stated that he participated in the training and that it was very eye-opening and emotional. Ms. Freeland also provided the Board with a synopsis of all of the Title VI and ADA investigations that have been conducted by the City.

Mr. Gonzalez thanked the Diversity Office for the wonderful experience that the film screening of *Dolores* provided to him and other students at Benedictine University Mesa.

Ms. Khalighi invited the Board to attend the upcoming Zen Nights festival on March 30, 2018 at 6:30pm.

9. Hear reports on conferences and/or meetings attended.

Ms. Tweedy:

- 3/8/18 Indie Lens Pop-Up! film screening of *Dolores* at Benedictine University Mesa. Dr. Moon and Mr. Gonzalez were also in attendance.
- 3/10/18 Women's Empowerment Summit at Mesa Community College. Dr. Moon was in attendance. Dr. Byron provided Summit opening and closing remarks.
- 3/11/18 Arizona Aloha Festival at Tempe Beach Park
- 3/13/18 MPD Asian Community Advisory Board (ACAB) meeting at Mesa Fiesta Substation. Ms. Tweedy was the guest speaker and conducted a "Question and Answer" session with the attendees.
- 3/17/18 Lau Kanaka No Hawaii Hawaiian Civic Club of Arizona general meeting at Stillman's House in Phoenix
- 3/20/18 Lau Kanaka No Hawaii (LKNH) Hawaiian Civic Club of Arizona President Pualani Hockenhull at Moki's Hawaiian Grill in Mesa. There was discussion centered around visibility of the Polynesian Community and the issues that they face.
- 3/23/18 participated in a phone conversation with Matt Kramer to discuss joining the LKNH website committee.

10. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05PM.

***Members of the audience may address the Board on any item. The Arizona Open Meeting Law (ARS § 38-431 et seq.) limits the Human Relations Advisory Board to discussing only those matters listed on the agenda and other matters related thereto.**

The City of Mesa is committed to making its public meetings accessible. For accommodations, translation, or additional information, please contact the City of Mesa Diversity Office at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting at (480) 644-5432 or AzRelay 7-1-1 for those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Si necesita asistencia o traducción en español, favor de llamar al menos 48 horas antes de la reunión al 480-644-2767.