
**CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
May 24, 2017 Minutes**

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on May 24, 2017
at 6:00pm at Mesa Council Chambers, Lower Level (57 E 1st St)

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Tompert – Chair
Cliff Moon- Vice Chair
Colleen Byron
Joseph Holmes
Nadia Khalighi
Martin Rios
Keola Tweedy
Louis Wade

MEMBERS ABSENT

Winnie Kaplan
Robert Martinez
Cassandra Sampson

STAFF PRESENT

Lt. Jeff Cutler
Bethany Freeland
Ruth Giese
Kelly Gregan

GUESTS

1. Chair's Call to Order

Mr. Tompert called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Items from Citizens Present. *

There were no citizens present to speak to the Board.

3. Discuss and vote on the selection of the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2017-2018 Board year.

Dr. Byron made a motion to elect Dr. Moon as the Chair for the 2017-2018 Board year. Ms. Khalighi seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Dr. Moon made a motion to elect Dr. Byron as the Vice-Chair for the 2017-2018 Board year. Ms. Khalighi seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of minutes from the April 26, 2017 HRAB meeting.

Dr. Byron moved to accept the minutes with corrections made to item 6a adding that Dr. Moon questioned Mr. Ray Villa regarding the My Brother's Keeper initiative to which Mr. Villa had no current updates. The date on the final minutes was also corrected. Ms. Khalighi seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Discuss and vote on the cancelling of the 2017 June and July Board meetings.

Dr. Byron moved to cancel the 2017 June and July Board meetings. Ms. Tweedy seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Discuss and take action on Mesa Police Department (MPD) Monthly Community Engagement Report.

Lieutenant Jeff Cutler introduced himself and gave a brief overview of the area of Mesa that his unit oversees, which is the Fiesta Division. He explained that crime has been steadily reducing over the past couple of years. He also explained that there have been a higher than usual number of pedestrian related fatalities. There will be a new social media campaign launch in order to address this issue. Dr. Byron questioned as to whether or not there are crime related issues at the vacant strip mall located on the north side of southern, across from Fiesta Mall. Lt. Cutler informed her that there is not a crime issue in that area.

(6a) Updates on Diversity related police incidents and activities.

There were no updates available on this item.

(6b) Updates on scheduling of upcoming Police Advisory Board meetings.

There were no updates available on this item.

(6c) Updates by Dr. Byron regarding the Police Community Forums and statistics of police activity in the community.

There were no updates available on this item.

7. Discuss and take action on items presented by the Youth Diversity Education Team (YDET).

(7a) Organize youth community service projects and public education including the topic of Diversity through organizations such as: The Baha'i Community, Anti-Defamation League, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Gay and Lesbian Education Network.

(7a-1) Update of the 2nd Annual Youth Peace Building Summit.

Ms. Khalighi gave an overview of the Youth Peace Building Summit that took place on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at Wilkes University. There were approximately 130 attendees. There are plans to hold another Summit in the 2017-2018 Board year. Dr. Moon asked that all of the follow up information be forwarded to representatives of Mesa Public Schools that helped facilitate the Summit. Ms. Freeland stated she would send the information.

(7a-2) Organizing a mural project with community partners schools.

Ms. Khalighi informed that Board that the YDET decided to have this item, as well as item 7a-3, included as follow-up activities of the 3rd Annual Peace Building Summit.

(7a-3) Organizing additional youth reading service projects.

Ms. Khalighi informed the Board that the YDET decided to have this item, as well as item 7a-2, included as follow-up activities of the 3rd Annual Peace Building Summit.

8. Discuss and take action on items presented by the Disabilities Action Team (DAT).

(8a) Organizing a meeting and presentation regarding individuals with mental health and substance abuse issues to the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Tompert talked briefly regarding the presentation that Marc Community Resources, in conjunction with the DAT, gave regarding this issue during the Mesa Morning Live event on May 12, 2017. At this event, Village Inn stepped up to begin working to hire individuals with mental health and substance abuse issues. The DAT now has one remaining pillar to complete in regards to this agenda item and that will be addressed in the 2017-2018 Board year.

9. Discuss and take action on the following standing items outlined in the 2015-17 Strategic Plan.

(9a) Updates by Mr. Rios regarding 21st Century Policing.

Mr. Rios informed the Board that he has resigned his position on the HRAB. He went on to update the Board on the Blue Alert program. The Blue Alert warns civilians of violent offenders who have killed or injured Police Officers. It will also alert the public to Officers who have gone missing. He also informed the Board that President Trump had declared May 15th as "Police Officers Memorial Day" and the week of May 14th as "Police Week." He also updated the Board on risks posed to Officers as hazards of their job.

(9b) Updates on increasing the number of speakers enrolled in the Speaker's Bureau and marketing the availability of the Speaker's Bureau as a community resource.

There were no updates available on this item.

10. Discuss and take action on partnership with Mesa Public School System and other educational entities on addressing matters of diversity and inclusion within the City of Mesa.

Mr. Tompert advised that the Board members bring ideas to the Strategic Planning meeting in August 2017 on how the Board can further fulfill this agenda item.

11. Watch brief video entitled *Mesa's Diverse Community*.

Dr. Byron suggested that during the recommendations made at the Strategic Planning Session in August 2017 that the Board discuss ways to share the video more effectively.

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

Ms. Tweedy informed the Board that she will be starting a master cultural events calendar to make available to the Board members. She also spoke on her attendance of the Arizona Asian American Association where she spoke with Barry Wong, of the Governor's Office, and invited him to attend a future HRAB meeting.

Board Member Tweedy: Scottsdale as a Golden Rule City Launch Breakfast
2nd Annual Peace Building Summit
2nd Quarter Convention of the Mainland Council
Mesa Police Department Asian Community Advisory Board Meeting
Mesa Morning Live
Lau Kanaka No Hawaii General Meeting
Arizona Asian American Association

13. Scheduling of meetings, future agenda items, and general information, including those set forth below.

(13a) Bi-Annual Strategic Planning Session and Special Meeting is scheduled for Saturday August 26, 2017 at Mesa City Plaza (20 E Main St) in Suite 170.

(13b) Indie Lens Pop-Up film screening of *Real Boy* on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at the Mesa Public Library- Main Branch (64 E 1st St) beginning at 2PM.

(13c) Regional Human Relations Commission Meeting hosted by City of Mesa- tentative date set for Wednesday, August 30, 2017 from 7:30AM to 9:30AM.

14. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53PM.

***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.**

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