



Human Relations Commission
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Tucson Human Relations Commission RETREAT MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Tucson Human Relations Commission was called to order by Chair Sat Bir Kaur Khalsa on Saturday, June 6, 2009, at 8:46 a.m., in the Armory Park Senior Center.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Members Present:

Victor Flores, Treasurer
Joe Yee
Maritza Broce
Yahya Yuksel
Sat Bir Kaur Khalsa, Chair
Al Whitehurst

Representing:

Ward 1
Ward 2
Ward 3
Ward 4
Ward 6
GLBT Commission

Members Absent:

Martha Gabusi-Taylor Mayor
Glenn Howell, Vice Chair Ward 5

Others Present:

Robin Landers, Facilitator, Tucson Parks and Recreation
Maria Zepeda, City Clerk's Office

2. Get to know your Fellow Commissioner

Robin Landers, Tucson Parks and Recreation, facilitated the following activities/exercises with the Commission:

- The Gifts I Bring exercise (worksheet)
Ms. Landers distributed a worksheet and asked Commissioners to write down the qualities, skills, and experience they brought to the Commission. She also asked them to write down one thing about their past they wanted to share.
- Why are you here this morning, what are your expectations?
Ms. Landers asked the Commissioners the above question. The following is a recap of their responses:
 - Being part of solidifying, clarifying and supporting the role of the Commission in the coming year.
 - Learning, as a member of the Commission, what specific things can be done through the HRC to better achieve set goals.
 - Getting to know the Commission/Commissioners, so that working together, set setting goals for the coming year can be accomplished.
 - Affirming reasons why Commissioners want to serve on the HRC.
 - Creating steps to achieve and prioritize set goals
 - Participating in team building efforts to resolve issues within the Commission.

- Guidelines for working together today (handouts)
Ms. Landers spoke about her expectations for the retreat and commission members. She reviewed and distributed handouts and also discussed guidelines she wanted the Commissioners to follow. She spoke about the importance of collaboration with a group and how generosity, belonging, inter-dependence, and mastery, when combined, worked hand in hand in a setting such as the HRC.

3. **Mission, Goals and Commitment of the Human Relations Commission**

Discussion was held.

GOALS – 2009

- Create HRC website
- Have effective collaboration with other commissions
- Develop ways to create strong community outreach by the HRC
- Bring diverse groups together
- Develop a Powerpoint presentation that informs the community of the HRC and its functions.
- Find and promote areas of agreement for a common purpose
- Have a financial plan and goals set
- Integrate and increase influence the Mayor and Council
- Become direct advisors to the Council
- Tap into intelligent and creative resources in the community to promote Rosa Parks Endowment fund.
- Use all available resources
- Support those who support the mission
- Create a strong action plan
- Create an effective budget
- Develop legal fundraising methods

OBJECTIVES – 2009

- Educate the community to deal effectively with issues of discrimination
- Create an action plan
- Have full support of Mayor and Council
- Get Tucson to embrace and support the work of the HRC
- Have an **HRC commissioner appointed as an** advisor ~~position~~ to the Council
- Balance of grassroots organizations
- Community awareness of HRC
- Community involvement in creating effective ways to bring the community together
- **Commission is more active in the** Tucson Community ~~is proactive~~
- Fear is replaced by HOPE
- Diversity is celebrated throughout the community
- Tucson has a beloved community

MISSION – 2009

The Mission of the Tucson Human Relations Commission is one of promoting inclusion, understanding, respect and cooperation among people. The commission supports the end of discrimination on the basis of race, color, nation origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, ancestry, marital status, gender identity or expression, religion, **familial** ~~familial~~ status, socioeconomic status, veteran status and other disenfranchised person in places of public accommodation, housing and employment.

4. **HRC Budget and Timeline of Events**
Item not discussed.
5. **Commission and Meeting Agenda Structure**
Item not discussed.
6. **Adjournment – 1:11 p.m.**