

**Huntington Beach Human Relations Task Force  
Huntington Beach Central Library - B Room  
January 5, 2010  
Minutes**

- I. Roll Call:** Dagley, Garrick, Gee, Jackle, Inouye, Nees, Rodriguez  
Absent: Chancellor, Goldenberg  
Staff Liaison: Elaine Kuhnke  
HBPD: Sgt. Aaron Smith  
OCHRC: None  
Public: Richard Moore (Vice Chair, HB Reads Committee)

**II. Welcoming Remarks**

Chair Inouye called the meeting to order approximately 6:50 p.m. He welcomed new task force members Christina Ryan Rodriguez, Joe Dagley, William Nees, Don Garrick, and Sheila Gee to the meeting who were appointed by the City Council on December 21, 2009.

**III. Public Comments**

None.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

**Moved: Jackle; Second: Inouye – To accept December 1, 2009 minutes.  
Approved: 7; No: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 2 (Chancellor, Goldenberg)**

**V. Status Reports:**

**1. Report of HRTF Account Balances**

Elaine Kuhnke reported the balances in task force accounts remained the same:  
\$4,591.03 – HB Reads  
\$1,973.80 – Misc.  
\$6,924.83 – Total

**2. Report of November Hate Crimes/Incidents**

Sgt. Smith reported that there were no new hate crimes in December. He will be present the annual hate crime report at the February 2, 2010 meeting.

**VI. Updates, Planning and Possible Motions pertaining to the following events/programs:**

**1. Report of HRTF Student Representative Programs -**

No report, due to absence of Chancellor.

**2. Report of HB Reads Committee**

Jackle distributed a listing of scheduled HB Reads events and provided a description of the book fairs to be held as part of HB Reads fundraising events.

**3. Report of OC Human Relations**

Inouye reported that OC Human Relations Commission is beginning its budget process for the upcoming fiscal year. Inouye also described that the OC Human Relations is the non-profit arm of the Commission and is the agency responsible for providing school services.

## **VII. New Business**

### **1. Overview and discussion of existing Task Force programs**

Inouye provided an overview of each of the existing task force programs, including tracking hate crimes through the HB Police Department, Making Victims Whole, the various student programs, HB Reads, Federal Diversity months, and the Coordinating Council. Inouye also distributed copies of the Task Force brochure, and recognized the overall mission of the Task Force - to promote and celebrate in our community through education and understanding.

Much discussion ensued regarding the purpose of each of the above programs and their impact on the community. Nees asked how the programs have impacted the community. Inouye and Kuhnke responded that the programs' impacts cannot be easily measured since their effects are community-wide.

Discussion also focused on the protocol for follow-up of hate crimes. Kuhnke explained the current procedure of sending a letter from the Task Force chair, along with a copy of the city's Declaration of Human Dignity, to the victim. Kuhnke indicated that the Task Force has often wrestled with the appropriate response, but that the letter with an invitation to contact the Chair for support as needed has been the standard procedure. Inouye also responded that victims typically may want to remain anonymous and that their privacy needs to be considered. Gee suggested that flowers could be sent to the victim as well should the budget allow for that.

Inouye also provided an overview of the Making Victims Whole program and asked Kuhnke to provide a current status. Kuhnke responded that several members have worked on the program over the years with a goal of establishing a listing of local firms who would be willing to assist hate crime victims who sustained property damage through either a monetary donation or discounted services. Nees suggested that the Police Department may already have a listing of firms that are used when homes are vandalized that could be used for this program. Kuhnke will contact Sgt. Smith to determine if there is such a list.

Regarding the Federal Diversity months, Kuhnke reported that for the past two years the Mayor has recognized each of the months during the presentation portion of the City Council meetings by reading a short paragraph that Kuhnke has written. The months currently being recognized include Feb: National African American History; Mar: Women's History; May: Asian/Pacific American and Older Americans; June: Gay and Lesbian Pride; Sept: National Hispanic; Oct: National Disability Employment Awareness; Nov. National American Indian. Kuhnke also reported that there are other Federal Diversity Months that are currently not being recognized and provided those names. Inouye will contact Mayor Green regarding her preference for continuing the recognition of the months for the upcoming year.

Regarding the Friends program, Jackle reported that, as originally conceived, the purpose of the Friends group was to provide an opportunity to develop an interest by the public in the work of the Task Force through a social occasion, develop a group of volunteers who could assist at events, as well as support ethnic restaurants within the city. Jackle indicated that the program could be reactivated should the members be interested.

Inouye closed this item by indicating that his purpose in reviewing the programs is to educate new members and determine whether or not there is interest in continuing the programs or identify the need for new programs

## **2. Request for Appointment of Task Force Secretary to prepare minutes**

Inouye reported the need for a volunteer to serve as Secretary. Kuhnke reported that according to the by-laws, the term traditionally begins in March for a full year. The position has remained unfilled for several months. Dagley volunteered to take minutes at the meeting in February.

## **3. Request for two members to serve on HB Reads Committee**

Inouye reported the need for additional members to serve on the HB Reads Committee. Since HB Reads is a committee of the Task Force, there must be representation from the Task Force membership. Currently, Jackle is unable to attend due to work requirements although she would like to remain a member of the committee. Rodriguez expressed an interest in possibly joining the committee but will need to check her work schedule. Garrick agreed to attend the next meeting. Kuhnke also emphasized the importance of having Task Force members attending the HB Reads Committee meetings.

## **4. Request for appointment of alternate to HB Coordinating Council**

Jackle indicated a need for an alternate to attend HB Coordinating Council lunch meetings on the first Monday of every month. Garrick agreed to be the alternate on behalf of the Task Force. Jackle also requested that Chair Inouye attend the February 1 meeting at Murdy Community Center since all organization presidents are invited. Inouye indicated that he would put the meeting on his calendar.

## **5. Discuss role/participation of Parent Leadership Institute members in relation to the Task Force**

Inouye reported that one of his goals as Chair of the Task Force is to invite a representative from the Parent Leadership Institute program at HB High School to attend the Task Force regular meetings to determine how they might become involved in the work of the task force. Inouye indicated that a translator may be required and asked for the members' understanding should this be required.

## **6. Overview of Ralph M. Brown Act Requirements**

Kuhnke distributed a one-page summary of the important elements of the Brown Act for members to review. Kuhnke also reported that copies of the Brown Act were sent to all members and that she will be contacting the task force members in the future regarding mandatory attendance at the city's Code of Ethics training. She also reminded all members that they are public officials and must comply with the Brown Act requirements.

## **VIII. Task Force Member Comments**

Members Dagley, Garrick, Gee, Nees, and Rodriguez commented that they were excited to be a part of the Task Force and are looking forward to becoming more involved and developing new ideas for future programs. No additional announcements were made.

**The meeting adjourned by Inouye at 8:55 pm.**