

## Huntington Beach Human Relations Task Force

November 3, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

### I. Roll Call: 6:45 pm

Present: MacDonell, Dahman, Tyler, Malik, Monfort, McKinnon, Garrick, Lee- Goodman

Absent: Johnson

Staff Liaison: Kuhnke

Police Liaison: Sgt. Winks

### II. Welcoming Remarks by Chair MacDonell

Chair MacDonell welcomed all present.

### III. Public Comments: None.

### IV. Special Reports/Presentations:

Joe Dagley, Director of HB Reads, presented information on the HBReads program for 2016. He also provided had two suggestions for the HRTF Community Leadership Award. The first is Ralph Bauer, for all of his untiring work on behalf of the residents of HB, and particularly, now, for his leadership in spearheading the efforts to get help for the homeless population of HB. The second is Jason Ross, the current principal of Edison HS. He has been a strong proponent of HB Reads, allowing them to use the gym at HBHS when he was an administrator there and encouraging the faculty and students to read the book and to attend the author presentation. Now, at Edison, he is continuing to support HBReads, and will be providing the gym there for this year's author speech for the students.

This year will be the 8<sup>th</sup> year for HBReads. The book for this year is Little Princes by Connor Grennan. Dagley distributed flyers containing information on the book and the events supporting it. The Barnes and Noble Book Fairs will be on Dec. 6-13, 2015 and Mar.13-19, 2016. The event will occur on March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

### V. Approve minutes: October 6, 2015 minutes. Moved: Dahman, Seconded: Tyler yes (7) No (0) Abstain (1) absent (1) Johnson. Motion carried.

**Motion to add Sgt. Winks report to the agenda which was inadvertently removed. Moved: Dahman Seconded: Lee-Goodman Yes (8); No (0); Absent (Johnson). Motion carried.**

### VI. Status Reports:

#### 1. Hate Crimes/Incidents:

Sgt. Winks reported there was a hate crime in October. A transgender homeless female was approached by two men who proceeded to use hateful words, pepper spray her, and steal her purse. The purse was returned to her, minus her cell phone before the police arrived. One man was arrested, who then gave information to the police so that they were able to find and arrest the primary assailant, who was then charged with robbery and a hate crime. Charges were subsequently dropped on the first man arrested. The victim had disappeared, so the Police Chief contacted the local LBGT group who were able to assist detectives in locating the victim. She accepted some services offered to her, but has, since then, disappeared again. Sgt. Winks also reported that he is being promoted so a new officer will be assigned to report to the task force.

### VII. Updates, Planning, and Possible Motions pertaining to the following events/programs:

#### 1. Student Representative Programs

Dahman reported that only 3 students attended the meeting on Oct 21<sup>st</sup>. She will contact school administrators to try to increase participation. The students are still interested in having an anti-bullying assembly and are looking at a date in March. The next meeting is Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. New Business and Possible motions pertaining to:**

Task force members participated in a visioning exercise to develop and discuss goals and objectives for the next year. Members read A Declaration of Policy About Human Dignity which was the foundation for the HRTF formation. Everyone was asked to reflect on the different areas mentioned in the declaration, then to write suggestions of possible actions that we could take. The written suggestions were then assembled, read and placed in like categories. MacDonell collected them, will type them and present them to the task force next month for further discussion.

**IX. Task Force Member Comments:**

Lee-Goodman shared that there is a confederate flag waving in the vicinity of her son's school and is uncertain how to deal with this.

Garrick announced that the Huntington Beach Interfaith Council will be hosting an Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration. Also, the City of Compassion committee is looking for volunteer projects that fit their mission for their Volunteer Action Day

Kuhnke reminded members whose terms are expiring to let her know if they wish to be reappointed. She also reminded members that anyone working with the students must be fingerprinted and that members are not authorized to drive HRTF student representatives at any time.

**Adjournment at 8:50 pm to December 1, 2015 Huntington Central Library, B Room at 6:45 p.**