

Huntington Beach Human Relations Task Force

Tuesday, October 1, 2013

Regular Meeting Minutes

I. Roll Call: 6:45 pm

Present: Dagley, Garrick, Lee-Goodman, Malik, Tyler, MacDonell, Knowles, Johnson

Absent: Dahman

Staff Liaison: Kuhnke

Police Liaison: Sgt. Winks

II. Welcoming Remarks by Chair Dagley

Chair Dagley welcomed all present. He introduced new member, Anna Johnson and new police liaison, Sgt. Winks.

III. Public Comments:

Jennifer Drader, program supervisor with Project Path of the Community Service Programs(CSP), presented information on the programs being conducted in Huntington Beach. They provide community education on reducing alcohol abuse in young people and preventing prescription drug abuse.

IV. Special Reports/Presentations:

Ralph Bauer introduced the speaker and spoke about the need to understand the issue of the mentally ill homeless population. Lynne Thies with the John Henry Foundation and National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) presented basic information on the extensive services offered by NAMI of Orange County. This includes a Basics Education Program for families of children and adolescents with mental illness, Family-to-Family Education Program, an intensive 12 week program providing families with knowledge and skills to cope with mentally ill loved ones, weekly support groups for family members that are held throughout the county and NAMI Connection, a weekly recovery support group for people living with mental illness. In addition NAMI provides educational presentations to any interested community group to increase awareness and reduce the stigma of mental illness.

V. Approve Minutes:

Motion to approve Sept 3, 2013 minutes as presented. Moved: Knowles; Seconded Lee-Goodman

Yes: 8 No: 0; Absent: 1 (Dahman). Motion Approved.

VI. Status Reports:

1. Hate Crimes/Incidents:

Sgt. Winks reported that there were no hate crimes in September and no follow-up about crimes in the past.

2. Coordinating Council (CC) News/Activities:

There was no report from the CC. Knowles is resigning from the CC due to other commitments. MacDonell expressed interest in being the new representative to the CC and will attend the next meeting to get a feel for the requirements of the position.

3. OC Human Relations News/Activities:

Malik reported no activity

4. HB Reads 2013 News/Activities:

Dagley shared the article from the Independent on the choice of the book. HB Reads is hoping to develop a film series that will correlate with the subject of the book and is looking for recommendations for films.

5. HRTF Donation Account Balance:

Kuhnke reported the balance at \$1,678.86.

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

1. Ad Hoc Fundraising Committee:

Dagley reported that as soon as specific needs are identified, requests for funding will commence.

2. Report form AD Hoc Museum of Tolerance Trip Committee:
Both Valley Vista and Westminster High Schools have submitted applications for Target grants to help in paying expenses associated with the trips to MOT (assisted by Garrick). Valley Vista will take approximately 60 students to MOT in February, Westminster plans to take 50 students in March. Both schools are excited about the trip and plan to tie the experience into their curriculum. Ocean View still needs to get written confirmation on possible dates. HRTF financial responsibility is still to be determined.
3. HRTF Student Representative Programs
There will be a kick-off meeting on Oct. 9 at HBHS from 7-8 pm in Rm. D5. Students from each high school will attend the meeting and will meet monthly. Garrick, Tyler and Johnson expressed interest **in visiting**.

VIII. New Business and Possible motions pertaining to:

1. Follow-up research and possible program to identify school response to new anti-bullying laws
MacDonell will meet with Christy Clouse with the California Technical Assistance Center which provides positive behavior intervention support. Hopefully, this will provide support to help develop programs for Huntington Beach schools. MacDonell is still trying to get further 2012 data on bullying from the schools.
2. Follow up on program to purchase diversity books for school libraries
Tyler contacted the HB elementary school librarians and determined that the greatest need for diversity books includes people from India, the Middle East and African Americans. Tyler and Lee-Goodman have assembled lists of possible books to acquire by contacting the HB children's librarian, children's librarians from San Francisco schools and a local private school. Lee-Goodman will condense the many lists and come up with a workable number of books for possible purchase. Amazon will be contacted to determine if they have any resources for free book donations.
3. Consideration of possible HRTF community –wide award program
Dagley suggested that the HRTF begin recognizing people in Huntington Beach that exemplify behavior that enhances human relations and promotes diversity with a community leadership award. He recommended the first award go to Paul Morrow, Marina High School principal, for his leadership in the recent school election of a transgender homecoming queen. Kuhnke suggested that criteria for the program be developed and that the Council liaisons be made aware of the program. Dagley agreed to develop criteria for this award to be reviewed and approved by the HRTF.
Motion to support having community leadership award;
Moved Knowles; seconded Malik; Yes: 8; No: 0 Absent: 1 (Dahman) Motion approved.
4. Discussion of possible response to homecoming queen activities at Marina High School
Following discussion of possible responses, Dagley agreed to draft a letter for HRTF members to review that would be sent to the Marina High School Homecoming Queen. The letter would include an invitation to address the HRTF.
Motion to send letter of support to Cassidy Lynn Campbell:
Moved: Malik; seconded MacDonell; Yes: 8; No: 0 Absent: 1 (Dahman) Motion approved
5. Follow up regarding presentation of certificate of appreciation to retiring Police Chief Small for his support of HRTF
Dagley recommended that certificate for retiring police chief be nicely framed
Motion to approve \$50.00 to frame certificate for Police Chief Small.
Move: Malik; seconded MacDonell: Yes: 8; No: 0; Absent: 1 (Dahman). Motion approved.

IX. Task Force Member Comments:

Lee-Goodman will be presenting at the Women Leaders in Law Enforcement Annual Conference. Garrick asked that the HRTF develop ideas for getting more information on the HRTF activities into the public.

Adjournment at 8:45 pm to: November 5, 2013, Huntington Central Library, B Room at 6:45 pm