



Mayor's Diversity Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2008
City Hall – Assembly Conference Room #155

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Celeste Hodge (Director, OEO)	Kevin Holmes
Darrell Hess	Lynne Koral
Guadalupe Marroquin	Tommy O'Malley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Polly Carr	Lusiana Hansen
Kristin English	Scott Kim

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Hodge called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: (Full report attached)

- The OEO continues to work largely on employee issues, while maintaining our community outreach.
- Our Rural Affairs Coordinator is working on many issues surrounding our Native community, to include planning for the upcoming AFN convention.
- Our Disadvantage Business Enterprise Program remains in compliance.
- We are working with several organizations promoting diversity events:
 - We are working with the Business and Professional Women to host a luncheon on March 15 celebrating Women's History Month at the Anchorage Senior Center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Election:

MOTION: It was moved (Kevin Holmes), seconded (Darrell Hess), and passed unanimously to elect **Guadalupe Marroquin** as **Chair of the Mayor's Diversity Advisory Commission** .

MOTION: It was moved (Tommy O'Malley), seconded (Guadalupe Marroquin) and passed unanimously to elect **Lynne Koral** as **Vice Chair of the Mayor's Diversity Advisory Commission** .

MOTION: It was moved (Lynne Koral), seconded (Tommy O'Malley), and passed unanimously to elect **Polly Carr** as **Secretary of the Mayor's Diversity Advisory Commission** .

By-laws: OEO e-mailed draft bylaws to the Commission for input on February 4, 2008, with January 16, 2008, minutes and a reminder of the next meeting. OEO will re-send draft bylaws to the Commission. Comments on the bylaws should be e-mailed back to Darrell Hess no later than March 5. Darrell will incorporate the changes/comments and disseminate them to



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the members for a final review and comments March 10. The proposed changes to the bylaws will be discussed and finalized at the March 19, meeting.

Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services (RAIS): The Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS), a program of Catholic Social Services, has recently been notified by the Department of the State that approximately 34 refugees from Northern Sudan and separately from a refugee camp in Mali will be resettled in Alaska. They are due to start arriving within the next few weeks. The RAIS program is therefore currently preparing for these refugee arrivals and is looking for housing (rental) options for them. Darrell Hess and Kevin Holmes attended the meeting at Catholic Social Services and reported the meeting was mostly for service providers. Catholic Social Services is taking the lead and doing a great job with all the planning and logistics involved.

12 Minute Hate/Crime Presentation Discussion:

Kevin Holmes discussed his 12 minute hate/crime slide presentation and suggested that we create a presentation like this for the Advisory Commission. Kevin will e-mail template to fit the Commission.

- Need to reach out to Community Councils to help them be more inclusive and inviting to different ethnic and cultural groups in their neighborhoods.
- Create a brochure for Community Councils with information to include diversity meetings times and locations.
- Set up a free event like a reception represented by the community we live in. Good opportunity to network and supply information and education.
- Name tags with contact information for Commission members to wear at events. Darrell will look into this issue further.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Upcoming forum – “Alaska Supreme Court’s Advisory Committee on Fairness and Access”, a public forum February 21, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the Courthouse 303 K Street.
- Resolution to give our endorsement to the Latino Lions Club for their efforts to remodel the Hispanic Cultural Center Bldg. in Mt. View.

MOTION: It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to support the resolution.

- Guadalupe Marroquin passed out posters for Absentee Voting and information to try to new election workers.
- Anchorage Transportation Planning will be making a presentation at our next meeting March 19.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Diversity Advisory Commission’s meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 2008, at 5:30 p.m., City Hall, Mayor’s Conference Room #830 (8th Floor).



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ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously by the Commission to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Taplin
Administrative Assistant

Certified as Approved:
Celeste Hodge
Director/Community Outreach Liaison, OEO