

City of Boulder
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING SUMMARY FORM

NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION: Human Relations Commission
DATE OF MEETING: April 18, 2005
NAME/TELEPHONE OF PERSON PREPARING SUMMARY: Erika Krouse, (303) 441-4157
NAMES OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND INVITED GUESTS PRESENT: Commissioners Present – Clay Fong, Nino Gallo, J. McFadden, Rob Smoke. Commissioners Absent – Mariagnes Medrud. Staff - Carmen Atilano, Richard Johnson, Erika Krouse.
WHAT TYPE OF MEETING (CIRCLE ONE) [REGULAR] [SPECIAL] [QUASI-JUDICIAL];
OUTLINE OF AGENDA (USE ONE ADDITIONAL PAGE IF NECESSARY): WHAT WAS DISCUSSED, TABLED; WHAT ACTION WAS TAKEN; PROVIDE VOTE TALLY OF ANY VOTES TAKEN:
AGENDA ITEM 1 - CALL TO ORDER - The April 18, 2005 meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by R. Smoke.
AGENDA ITEM 2 – OATH OF OFFICE – Clay Fong was sworn into office at 6:07 pm.
AGENDA ITEM 3 - AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – Staff will distribute the following information to the HRC: 1.) a media packet from the Public Affairs office, 2.) closing of regional offices of the US Commission of Civil Rights, and 3.) guidelines for HRC from Department of Justice Community Relations. Discussion/Informational Item A was moved to the bottom of the list.
AGENDA ITEM 4 - APPROVAL OF MARCH 21, 2005 MINUTES – J. McFadden moved to approve the March 21, 2005 minutes. N. Gallo seconded. The motion passed 4-0.
AGENDA ITEM 5 – COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION – None.
AGENDA ITEM 6 - ACTION ITEMS A. Election of Officers for 2005, R. Smoke – J. McFadden moved to elect Rob Smoke as chairperson and N. Gallo as Deputy Chairperson for the HRC. C. Fong seconded. The motion passed 4-0.
AGENDA ITEM 7 – Discussion/Informational Items A. City/CU Alcohol Task Force, R. Smoke –The Task Force recommended that the City collaborate with the University to create a one-credit class for students, perhaps paid for through alcohol tax. Student Affairs may expand Orientation to include more alcohol/drug awareness. There was also concentration on media literacy and CU’s enforcement policies. City Council discussed Task Force recommendations at their study session and did not take any actions at this time. B. 2005 HRC Work Plan Update, C. Atilano –A community group called Safety Net Group (with Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center) has undergone training specific to racial profiling and will appear before the HRC next month. Exploring local policy or ordinance against hate crimes is on the HRC Work Plan, and the HRC has decided to leave the topic open until next month when they can hear Safety Net Group’s perspective. Another notable item on the work plan regards keeping abreast of current legislation, which speaks to R. Smoke’s work on the City/CU Alcohol Task Force. C. Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan, Susan Richstone – Susan Richstone from the City of Boulder Planning Department spoke on the Comprehensive Plan, a joint document between the City and County dating from the 1970s guiding physical planning in community, environment, economy, and social and human concerns. There is a Public Forum session with City Council next Tuesday night at 6 p.m., and over the next month the Planning Department will be drafting policy changes. With regard to planning issues, Planning has focused on diversity engagement and social equity. Commissioners discussed the term “Affordable Housing,” language accessibility, translation of materials, and equity in public transportation. The HRC will discuss issues regarding the Comprehensive Plan and present them to the Planning Department meeting next Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. D. Communications Media Policy, C. Atilano – The City Manager will be issuing a Media Policy this spring regarding how to handle media inquiries. Carmen Atilano distributed media packets to HRC members. E. Department of Justice Community Relations Guidelines – The Department of Justice issued general guidelines for Human Relations Commissions. If HRC finds the guidelines useful, they can invite someone from Community Relations Service from the branch office in Denver to speak to the HRC. F. US Commission of Civil Rights, C. Atilano – The US Commission of Civil Rights will be closing two of their regional offices by the end of the year, one of which is based out of Denver. John Dulles is Denver’s regional director.
AGENDA ITEM 8 – Immediate Action Items – R. Smoke moved for the City of Boulder to consider retaining the goal of Affordability for its housing program, without using the term of “Affordable Housing” for its City programs, considering using instead some form of “Accessible Housing,” without changing the program itself or inclusionary zoning. N. Gallo seconded, and the motion passed 4-0. C. Fong moved to give HRC support to the ideas recommended for inclusion in the BVCP for Housing, Social Equity and Diversity, particularly Items 1-8 on p. 2, with the additional information that these are necessary because historically some of these areas have been neglected, such as translation, access, racism and other forms of oppression, and recognize various roadblocks to meeting these goals. J. McFadden seconded and the vote passed 4-0. R. Smoke moved for the City to consider public transportation policies and equitable distribution of subsidized public transportation (for example EcoPasses) based on economic need. C. Fong seconded and the vote passed 4-0.
AGENDA ITEM 9 – Adjournment –J. McFadden moved to adjourn the meeting. N. Gallo seconded. The vote passed 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

TIME AND LOCATION OF ANY FUTURE MEETINGS, COMMITTEES OR SPECIAL HEARINGS: The next regular meeting of the HRC is scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. Meeting location will be the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building at 1777 Broadway.