

City of Boulder
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING SUMMARY FORM

NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION: Human Relations Commission
DATE OF MEETING: May 16, 2005
NAME/TELEPHONE OF PERSON PREPARING SUMMARY: Erika Krouse, (303) 441-4157
NAMES OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND INVITED GUESTS PRESENT: Commissioners Present –Nino Gallo, J. McFadden, Rob Smoke. Commissioners Absent – Clay Fong, Mariagnes Medrud Staff - Carmen Atilano, John Bunzli, 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 May 16, 2005 meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by R. Smoke.
AGENDA ITEM 2 - AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – None.
AGENDA ITEM 3 - APPROVAL OF MARCH 21, 2005 MINUTES – J. McFadden moved to approve the April minutes. N. Gallo seconded. The motion passed 3-0.
AGENDA ITEM 4 – COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION – Tim Thomas was concerned that a Council member had accepted an \$800 plane ticket to a conference from China, a country known for human rights abuses. He also expressed concern about the suspended community survey and the need for it to be translated into Spanish, and a wish for a member of the Latino community to run for City Council.
AGENDA ITEM 5 - ACTION ITEMS A. Grant Report from Centro Amistad, C. Atilano – A year ago, \$1000 was awarded to El Centro Amistad by the HRC for community meetings with the Latino/Immigrant community regarding housing and labor issues. Jorge Santiago reported that 20 meetings were conducted with 437 Latino/Immigrant community members. The main problems concerned management harassing or singling out Latinos, and eviction without proper procedure. N. Gallo moved to approve the grant report from El Centro Amistad. J. McFadden seconded. The motion passed 3-0. B. U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, C. Atilano – The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights decided to delay the closure of the Rocky Mountain regional office for at least a month. Letters from local senators have urged the federal office to keep the regional office open. HRC decided to assign this item to the June agenda as an Action Item.
AGENDA ITEM 6 – Discussion/Informational Items A. Transients on the Mall, BPD Commanders Testa and Gosage –BPD Commanders Testa and Gosage reported that they have received numerous complaints regarding transients from merchants in 1300 block of Pearl Street, and have stepped up patrols. Off-duty officers have been hired to spend time on the 1300 block to address those issues. Mall business owners are appearing before Council to get some additional direction from Council regarding problems and look into new ordinances or modification of existing ordinances. B. Safety Net Update, Betty Ball – The Safety Net Profiling Project is moving forward to include profiling regarding homelessness and disability, as well as racial profiling. They are investigating profiling issues from police, banks, buses, and landlords. They will have a cell phone that is answered 24/7, recruit more volunteers and have another training with One Nation Enlightened in Denver. Simeon Darwick spoke about Source, a student outreach program on campus which has begun a liason with the NAACP. There will be meeting this Friday at 3 pm open to public in the Source Lounge in the Senior Lounge. J. McFadden volunteered to be the HRC liason with the Safety Net project. C. City/CU Alcohol Task Force, R. Smoke – Recommendations were made to City Council for a required course for incoming freshmen, including certain education on alcohol and drug use. R. Smoke called for more participation from the law enforcement/mental health/medical community. D. Immigrant Advisory Committee, C. Atilano – The City Manager will move ahead with recommendation from the HRC to form a pilot immigrant advisory committee to advise City Manager on policy. The committee will be set up in phases: outreach, appointment, introductory meetings, and then in April 2007 the committee will report to City Manager, HRC and Council. The committee will be staffed by HHS-CSA. There was concern on the part of the HRC as to the extent of time the process would take.
AGENDA ITEM 7 – Immediate Action Items – R. Smoke invited John Pollak to come before HRC to speak on possibility of changing the term, “Affordable Housing.”
AGENDA ITEM 8 – Adjournment – N. Gallo moved to adjourn the meeting. J. McFadden seconded. The vote passed 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.
TIME AND LOCATION OF ANY FUTURE MEETINGS, COMMITTEES OR SPECIAL HEARINGS: The next regular meeting of the HRC is scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. Meeting location will be the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building at 1777 Broadway.