

City of Boulder
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING SUMMARY FORM

NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION: Human Relations Commission
DATE OF MEETING: October 20, 2008
NAME/TELEPHONE OF PERSON PREPARING SUMMARY: Erika Krouse, (303) 441-4157
NAMES OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND INVITED GUESTS PRESENT: Commissioners Present – Leisha Conners Bauer, Pilar Elena Collazo, Jill McFadden, Rayford Stewart Commissioners Absent – Amy Stein. Staff - Carmen Atilano, Chet Chavez, Clay Fong, 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 October 20, 2008 HRC meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by J. McFadden.
AGENDA ITEM 2 - AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – The Bias Incident Hotline Project was moved to the beginning of the Action Items, followed by Cultural Celebration Reports and Interviews. Parenting Place and Gangs in Boulder were added to Discussion/Informational Items.
AGENDA ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES – L. Conners Bauer moved to approve the September, 2008 minutes. P.E. Collazo made two amendments to the minutes. R. Stewart seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of 4-0.
AGENDA ITEM 4 – COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION – Lynn Reed from the Boulder Public Library explained the logistics of the library’s new internet access procedures. She said that if anyone is excluded from receiving help, the Library needs to know about it. P.E. Collazo asked if the Library has studied the impact to people who do not have English language skills and if there is a decrease of Spanish-speaker use on the internet. Lynn Reed said that they had not studied that issue and the Library does not keep statistics. P.E. Collazo asks for signs or pictures explaining the process or bilingual help accessible to patrons. In response to HRC concerns about the homeless community, Rene Brodeur and Joy Eckstine described the amenities for the Boulder homeless community, explaining policy and procedure for the Homeless Shelter and Carriage House, respectively. R. Stewart spoke about his concern about the homeless in the current economic climate.
AGENDA ITEM 5 - ACTION ITEMS A. The Bias Incident Hotline Project, J. McFadden – R. Stewart recused himself from the meeting at 6:53 pm. The Bias Incident Hotline Project received a one-time grant of \$16,000, as designated by City Council. At the September HRC meeting, the Hotline requested additional funds, necessitating an appeal to City Council. L. Conners Bauer expressed thanks to the Hotline for reworking their report, and asked about logistics regarding approaching Council. Staff replied that they would need to ask Council to change their policy. J. McFadden expressed concern over continuing to provide money for this project over other worthy projects. P.E. Collazo wanted to see more preventive work regarding racism. L. Conners Bauer moved that the Human Relations Commission requests the City Council to remove the policy that prohibits the Anti-Bias Hotline from competing for city funding through the Human Services Fund and other competitive funding processes. J. McFadden seconded and the motion passed with a vote of 3-0. J. McFadden asked to keep prevention in mind and perhaps put it on the HRC Workplan in the future. R. Stewart rejoined the meeting at 7:12. B. 2008 Cultural Celebration Reports, J. McFadden 1. Boulder Pride - Aicila Lewis spoke about this year’s celebration and how City participation shows support for the gay community and alleviates fears regarding coming out. J. McFadden remarked on how the celebration was larger and better-attended this year. R. Stewart moved to accept the Boulder Pride Cultural Celebration Fund report. L. Conners Bauer seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of 4-0. 2. Boulder Asian Pacific Alliance – P.E. Collazo left the meeting at 7:18 and returned at 7:20 pm. BAPA reported that they had a successful event despite the cold weather, and this year their event was zero-waste. R. Stewart thanked BAPA for their hospitality and the environmentally green event. L. Conners Bauer moved to accept the BAPA report. P.E. Collazo seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of 4-0. 3. El Centro AMISTAD – R. Stewart recused himself from the meeting at 7:27 pm. Isolde Hathaway spoke on Jorge de Santiago’s behalf regarding AMISTAD, who collaborated with BCU this year for the event. P.E. Collazo moved to accept the El Centro AMISTAD report. L. Conners Bauer seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of 3-0. R. Stewart rejoined the meeting at 7:32.
AGENDA ITEM 6 – Discussion/Informational Items A. 2009 Cultural Celebration Applicants, J. McFadden 1. Boulder Pride – Aicila Lewis spoke on plans to continue the successful aspects of the celebration and try to heighten them in the following year, and looking at ways to bridge the gap between Oasis and Boulder Pride. 2. Boulder Asian Pacific Alliance – BAPA spoke on their many ongoing programs for the community and youth. 3. El Centro AMISTAD – Isolde Hathaway spoke of continued work with other agencies to make the Festival more inclusive. 4. Romanian American Freedom Alliance – This item was tabled until November. 5. CU Dennis Small Cultural Center – This item was tabled until November. 6. Veterans Helping Veterans Now – This agency has withdrawn their application. 7. Parenting Place – Parenting Place described their potluck event for parents to build community with others from their countries of origin. B. Gangs in Boulder, Clay Fong, Chet Chavez - CYF decided to meet individually and in groups with gang members on a regular basis, giving them guidelines for behavior and rewards. The results were very positive: kids were returning to classes, considering college, and beginning to separate themselves from the gangs. Clay Fong spoke on the need for continued involvement, and the possibility of violent consequences if the issue is ignored. They ask for HRC assistance in recruiting bilingual mediators and generating sustainable culturally-sensitive mentoring programs to create attractive alternatives to gang life. R. Stewart asked about San Juan del Centro and police presence, and Chet Chavez said that they do not work much with suppression, but families from San Juan requested CYF to come and talk to them in a community meeting. The HRC asked to be present at the meeting. C. 2009 MLK, Jr. Day Celebration, C. Atilano – The Planning Committee has begun to meet every two weeks. This year, the University will collaborate more with the event, and the UMC may be a site for the event, since Boulder High will not be available. This collaboration will allow for more CU staff and faculty support and also more town-gown interaction. D. Announcements – The discussion about the Human Rights convention was tabled until November.
AGENDA ITEM 7 – Immediate Action Items – None.
AGENDA ITEM 8 – Adjournment – L. Conners Bauer moved to adjourn the October 20, 2008 meeting. P.E. Collazo seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.
TIME AND LOCATION OF ANY FUTURE MEETINGS, COMMITTEES OR SPECIAL HEARINGS: The next regular meeting of the HRC is scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Meeting location will be City Council Chambers at 1777 Broadway.

