
**CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
April 25, 2018 Minutes**

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on April 25, 2018
at 6:00pm in the Lower Level City Council Chambers at 57 E 1st St.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cliff Moon- Chair
Colleen Byron- Vice Chair
Alvaro Gonzalez
Nadia Khalighi
Silvia Stanford
Mark Tompert
Keola Tweedy

MEMBERS ABSENT

Joseph Holmes
Cassandra Sampson
Louis Wade

STAFF PRESENT

James Duty
Bethany Freeland
Ruth Giese
Ray Villa

GUESTS

William Campos

1. Chair's Call to Order'

Dr. Moon called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

2. Items from Citizens Present. *

There were no citizens present who wished to speak to the Board.

3. Approval of minutes from the January 24, 2018 Board meeting.

Dr. Byron made a motion to approve the minutes with the following corrections:

- The Youth Peace Building Summit will be referred to as the "3rd Youth Peace Building Summit" throughout the entirety of the minutes.
- Item 9 under Ms. Tweedy:
 - 3/10/18 Women's Empowerment Summit at Mesa Community College. Dr. Moon was in attendance. Dr. Byron provided Summit opening and closing remarks.
 - 3/23/18 participated in a phone conversation with Matt Kramer to discuss joining the LKNH website committee.

Mr. Tompert seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Discuss and make recommendations on Mesa Police Department (MPD) Monthly Community Engagement Report.

(4a) Updates on Diversity related police incidents and activities.

Mr. Villa shared two incidents that occurred last month. Both of them are considered hate crimes. The first one happened on March 9, 2018 near 300 W Main St on the Light Rail. The incident involved an African American, Muslim, disabled individual in a wheel chair and Caucasian male. There was a verbal and physical altercation. The MPD filed charges against the second individual.

The second occurrence took place at 210 E Brown Rd on March 19, 2018. It involved members of a gang from the Gila River Indian Community and a homosexual male individual. A sexual assault took place. Individuals of the gang were charged with aggravated assault. Dr. Moon asked if victims of these violent crimes are referred to victim services programs. Mr. Villa confirmed that they are. Ms. Tweedy asked what the risk of gang retaliation is. Ms. Villa stated that victim services, as well as the Police Department, continue to monitor and check-in with the victim. If they feel unsafe for any reason, the MPD will take appropriate action.

Mr. Villa informed the Board that he would like to hire a consultant to perform a perception study for the City. It would focus on persons who utilize services for certain non-profits. The goal is to form two forum groups from the individuals who are surveyed.

The kids who belong to the MESA Program (Make Every Student Accountable) will be brought to the police academy to provide care for them while the “Red for Ed” teacher’s strike continues. Ms. Tweedy asked if the MPD participates in “Take Your Child to Work Day.” Mr. Villa confirmed that they do.

(4b) Updates on scheduling of upcoming Police Advisory Board meetings.

- 4-27-18 from 4 – 6PM Parents Event at the Mesa Arts Academy (Near the Boys and Girls Club)
- 4-28-18 from 10 – 12PM Women in Law Enforcement Career Event at the Mesa Public Safety Training Facility
- 4-29-18 at 1:30PM The Great Cananea Christian Church Luncheon Celebration at the Wyndemere
- 5-3-18 at 7AM Law Enforcement Special Olympics Torch Run at 130 N Robson
- 5-3-18 at 5PM Mesa Police Officer Memorial Service at 130 N Robson
- 5-1-18, 5-2-18, and 5-3-18 Youth interviews regarding their opinions and views on law enforcement at The Alston House. Dr. Moon shared the details of this project with John Meza who would like to bring the program to the City of Tempe.
- 5-8-18 from 6-8PM Asian Advisory Board meeting at Gangnam BBQ Restaurant

- 5-12-18 from 10- 12PM Community Outreach Event at Mekong Plaza

(4b-1) Updates on a meeting of the LGBTQ Community Forum.

Mr. Villa informed the Board that Officer Amanda Stamps has been surveying possible participants about what the best meeting times and locations would be for this forum. There has been little response. Mr. Villa wondered if members of the Board had any suggestions on how to improve their community outreach. Dr. Moon stated that himself and Mr. Villa will be having a scheduled meeting on Monday, May 30, 2018 at 4PM at Lost Dutchman Coffee Roasters to further discuss this topic. Dr. Moon told the Board that he would update them on the outcome of that meeting.

5. Discuss and take action on meeting with various educational institutions to assess strides being made to address diversity issues within schools.

Ms. Freeland provided the Board with a copy of the letter that was drafted by Dr. Moon. The letter will be sent to schools inviting them to attend upcoming HRAB meetings. Ms. Freeland will distribute the letter to the rest of the Board.

6. Discuss and take action on meeting with LGBTQ community members to build relationships for future partnerships.

This agenda item was discussed in previous item 4b-1.

7. Discuss and take action on the development of community fairs and events such as, but not limited to, a Police and Community Coming Together Fair, Women's Empowerment Event, and Youth Peace Building Summit.

Dr. Moon provided the Board with the participant surveys from both the 2018 Women's Empowerment Summit and the 3rd Annual Youth Peace Building Summit. Ms. Freeland stated that this year's Youth Peace Building Summit was an enormous success and Benedictine University were very gracious hosts to the event. Ms. Khalighi shared that the keynote speaker, Colby Jeffers, was instrumental in setting the positive tone of the summit. Also, the lunch that was donated in-kind by vegan Chef _____ was very well received. Ms. Khalighi thanked Dr. Pat Young and her students for doing a great job facilitating the event. Mr. Gonzalez, who helped facilitate a session, stated that he was impressed with the maturity of the students and their insight on the topics discussed. Dr. Moon thanked Ms. Giese for her support of the event and Ms. Freeland for her contributions. He also thanked Ms. Khalighi for all of her work in making the Summit a success. Ms. Khalighi thanked Dr. Moon for all of his work on both the 3rd Annual Youth Peace Building Summit and the Women's Empowerment Summit. Dr. Moon also informed the Board that Tempe expressed an interest in bringing the Youth Peace Building Summit model to their high school district.

Ms. Freeland asked Ms. Khalighi to provide further information on her attendance at the MPD's annual fair involving friends and family members. Ms. Khalighi asked Mr. Villa if this was the same fair that takes place at the Red Mountain PD Campus. Mr. Villa stated that this fair is actually

referred to as “Family Appreciation Day.” He agreed to let the Board know when this event or other related events are scheduled so that they may have a booth or Board representation there.

8. Scheduling of future agenda items, general information, and Board attendees at upcoming meetings and events including those set forth below.

Mr. Tompert asked if the Board would be getting their regular updates from the City of Mesa Transit Department and the Mesa City Court representatives. Ms. Freeland stated that Jodi Sorrell from Transit would be reaching out to schedule an update with the Board as soon as she had all of the appropriate information. She also let the Board know that she would reach out to the Courts to get an update on the Veteran’s Court Program. Dr. Moon asked if Diana Williams and Chief Ramon Batista would be giving an update on Diversity related programming at the upcoming May Board meeting. She stated that they would.

Ms. Tweedy shared that on the upcoming Friday, April 27, 2018 there will be another event that is part of the Archive and Oral History Series called Scanning and Oral History Day. It will be held at the Alston House. She also mentioned that on Saturday, April 28, 2018, Halau O Kekui will be performing at Arizona State University Gammage Auditorium. On Saturday, May 12, 2018, Lau Kanaka No Hawaii will be holding their Annual Scholarship Luau.

- (8a) Next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at 6PM in the Lower Level City Council Chambers (57 E 1st St).
 - (8b) Diversity Office in conjunction with A.T. Still University Poverty Simulation Training will be held on Monday, April 30, 2018 from 1- 4PM at the City of Mesa Public Training Facility (3260 N 40th St).
 - (8c) Indie Lens Pop-Up! Film Screening of *Served Like A Girl* to be held on Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 7PM at Benedictine University Mesa (225 E Main St).
 - (8d) Youth Peace Building Summit to be held on Saturday, April 14, 2018 from 8AM to 4PM at Benedictine University Mesa (225 E Main St).
 - (8e) 2018 Republic Services Arizona Celebration of Freedom will be held on July 4, 2018 at the Mesa Convention Center from 6- 10PM (263 N Center St).
9. Hear reports on conferences and meetings attended.

Ms. Khalighi attend the diversity festival held by A.T. Stills University. There was a wide variety of information available to attendees. She suggested that the event was not marketed as well as it could have been. She hopes more people become aware of it so that attendance can improve. Ms. Khalighi also shared that at her 90’s Vegan Prom Event, many of the participants attended due to missing their own proms for various reasons relating to diversity or a lack of inclusion in their own lives.

Dr. Byron attended a benefit concert for St. Joseph The Worker, which is an organization that helps eradicate homelessness by providing individuals with the tools they need to become employed. These services include resume assistance, computer access, mobile showers, and providing professional clothing.

Ms. Giese stated that she attended the 2018 Pride Parade along with Mayor John Giles, Councilmember Heredia, and Mr. James Duty.

Mr. Gonzalez informed the Board that he would be working at the Young Center. This organization assists undocumented children who have crossed the border and are fighting for asylum. He will be building relationships with the children to make them feel more comfortable about sharing information regarding their experiences. This event seeks to support child advocacy among these undocumented children. He invited the rest of the Board to share the contact information for the Center with individuals they feel may be able to assist with the program. Dr. Moon asked if Mr. Gonzalez would speak to someone at the Center about coming to share further information with the Board.

Ms. Tweedy:

- 3/30/18 Zen Nights Block Party 1-Year Anniversary in Downtown Mesa. Ms. Khalighi was also in attendance.
- 4/10/18 Archive & Presentation Workshop at Mesa Library Main Branch
- 4/12/18 Indie Lens Pop-Up! Film Screening of "Look & See: Wendell Berry's Kentucky" at Benedictine University Mesa. Mr. Duty was facilitating the event.
- 4/13/18 OCA B3 (Build, Breakthrough, Believe) Leadership Summit at Intel Chandler
- 4/14/18 Lau Kanaka No Hawaii (LKNH) Hawaiian Civic Club of Arizona General Meeting at Kaercher's House Phoenix
- 4/18/18 Maricopa Corporate College Impact Breakfast: Cross-Generational Workforce at Rio Salado Community College Tempe
- 4/18/18 Arizona Asian American Association (4A) General Meeting at LyfeBeast in Scottsdale

Ms. Freeland shared with the Board that Mr. Holmes, while traveling, attended the University of Oklahoma Gallogly College of Engineering Diversity and Inclusion Program Awards Banquet.

Ms. Stanford stated that she attended the National Forum for Black Public Administrators annual event in Cleveland, Ohio called Forum 2018. It was a week-long event celebrating the accomplishments of the Stokes Brothers. Joy Reid (MSNBC), Carla Harris (Morgan Stanley), Sean King (Black Lives Matter), and Judge Hatchett were all speakers at the event.

Dr. Moon attended a workshop entitled “Inequality is Making Us Sick.” It documented the correlation between social classes and health.

10. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29PM.

***Members of the audience may address the Board on any item. The Arizona Open Meeting Law (ARS § 38-431 et seq.) limits the Human Relations Advisory Board to discussing only those matters listed on the agenda and other matters related thereto.**

The City of Mesa is committed to making its public meetings accessible. For accommodations, translation, or additional information, please contact the City of Mesa Diversity Office at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting at (480) 644-5432 or AzRelay 7-1-1 for those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Si necesita asistencia o traducción en español, favor de llamar al menos 48 horas antes de la reunión al 480-644-2767.