

## Human Right Commission February 5, 2008 Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Randy Cole, Noel English, Glenn Glasgow, Marie Glaze, Oona Paredes, Valeta Snell, Mark Thomas

**Staff Present:** Steve Hollis, Shawna Victor, Nanette Ward, Fred Boeckmann

I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **Approval of Agenda:** Glasgow made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Thomas and passed unanimously.

III. **Approval of January 8, 2008 Meeting Minutes:** Snell made a motion to approve the January 8, 2008 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Thomas and passed unanimously.

#### IV. **Old Business**

- **Citizen Review Board:** Glaze said she attended the task force meeting January 17. There were representatives from the Columbia Police Officers Association and a representative from the NAACP that spoke at the meeting. After hearing the speakers and the task force discussion, she believes that the group is leaning toward recommending the creation of a Citizen Review Board.

Hollis noted the schedule of the task force meetings is on the City's website if the commissioners would like to attend future meetings.

- **Review of FY2009 Human Rights Enhancement RFP:** Thomas said the RFP is well done but suggests one change. He would like to see less emphasis on multicultural education proposals and suggested rearranging the RFP wording by moving "multicultural education" to the end of the list of types of programming the commission is seeking to fund. Glaze noted this is also in the introduction.

English asked if the commission needs to be more specific and actually prioritize how they would like to distribute funding, such as saying the number one priority will be for human rights programs and the number two priority will be for multicultural education programs. Cole said he would not feel comfortable doing that because there could be a great proposal for a multicultural education program and a very poor proposal for a human rights program.

Paredes said she would like to see multicultural education programs moved also and have elimination of discrimination as the first priority.

Glaze suggested the following language, "programs that promote the elimination of discrimination, inclusion, promote tolerance, diversity and related human rights issues will be considered for funding".

Cole made a motion to change the language of the introduction and the organization mission of the Human Rights Enhancement Funding Request for Proposal to read "programs that promote the elimination of discrimination, inclusion, promote tolerance, diversity and related human rights issues will be considered for funding". The motion was seconded by Thomas and passed unanimously.

Cole noted he does not like the wording “the organization’s mission must be realistic and clearly stated” under the organization mission portion of the proposal. He believes most proposals have an idealistic mission.

Paredes noted she thought about adding wording to the eighth guideline to include examination of human rights. Thomas said he made the same comment on his notes.

The commission will continue their discussion at their next meeting.

**V. New Business:** There was no new business.

**VI. Staff Reports**

**A. Community Services:** Hollis said there are three terms expiring. English noted she will not be reapplying due to work conflicts.

Hollis said the Columbia Values Diversity Celebration was a success this year.

Hollis and the commission discussed the change of duties for human rights staff.

**B. Law Department:** No report at this time.

**C. Human Rights staff:** Ward handed out a draft outline the community training in April to be provided by the Department of Justice and FBI. She is working on planning the “Let’s Talk, Columbia!” weekend. There have been ads on Mediacom and in the Columbia Missourian. The events will be at Friendship Baptist Church. In April, the Columbia Missourian will begin their 100 year anniversary celebration including a look at how Columbia has changed. One of the features will be a partnership with the study circles program.

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 2008 “Youth Speak” was well attended as was the facilitator training.

**VII. Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**VIII. Commissioner Comment:** There was no commissioner comment.

**IX. Closed Session to Discuss Pending Cases Pursuant to Section 610.021 (1) RSMo.:** Cole made a motion to move to closed session to discuss pending cases pursuant to Section 610.021 (1) RSMo. The motion was seconded by Snell and a roll call vote was taken. Cole called the roll with the following vote: Cole – Yes, Glaze – Yes, Thomas – Yes, English – Yes, Paredes – Yes, Snell – Yes, Glasgow - Yes

**X. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Hollis, Manager  
Office of Community Services