

**** These are DRAFT minutes and are scheduled to be approved
at the February 6, 2007 meeting ****

**Human Right Commission
January 2, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Randy Cole, Glenn Glasgow, Oona Paredes, Mark Thomas

Members Excused: Marie Glaze, Valeta Snell, Noel English

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Steve Hollis, Nanette Ward, Shawna Victor

- I. **Call to Order/Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Cole.
- II. **Approval of Agenda:** Glasgow made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Paredes and passed unanimously.
- III. **Approval of 11/7/06 Meeting Minutes:** Glasgow made a motion to approve the November 7, 2006 minutes. The motion was seconded by Paredes and passed unanimously.
- IV. **Old Business**
 - A. **Discussion of incident at Columbia Mall in 2/06 and subsequent inquiry:** Ward said a University of Missouri department did a study on the Columbia Police Department. She attended a meeting organized by the U.S. Department of Justice with the CPD and the NAACP.

Thomas said he thought the discussions had progressed to having the commission be involved in the creation of a possible citizen review board. He also requested the commission's involvement in the city's visioning process. The commission agreed to participate.
 - B. **Discussion of current relations with Islamic community:** Paredes said she and Glaze met with Hamoodi in November 2006. Paredes had drafted a memo for Hamoodi to look at and possibly approve to be sent to City Council on his behalf about the incident. Glaze did not approve of the letter. Hamoodi did not want the letter sent. He did not want this issue to be more public than what it has become and he asked that the issue be handled by his lawyer.

Thomas said he thought the Commission had agreed to take on the issue of the process not the specific issue of Hamoodi's case.

Cole suggested this item be tabled to the next meeting when there are more members present. The commission agreed.
- V. **New Business:** There was no new business.

VI. **Staff Reports**

- A. **Community Services:** Hollis said staff is working on the Columbia Values Diversity Celebration breakfast.

Hollis said he has been thinking of developing databases for the investigators and the community circles program.

- B. **Law Department:** There was no report at this time.

- C. **Investigator/Community Educator:** Ward said the January community circle will be on Tuesday, January 23, 2007.

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

- VIII. **Commissioner Comment:** Cole read a prepared statement outlining his concerns in regard to the actions of the chair, Marie Glaze leading up to the December commission meeting. Cole stated that Glaze approached him to ask that he state that he would be unavailable for the December meeting as she wanted to avoid having the meeting due to Mr. Hamoodi's concerns about privacy. After agreeing to do so, Cole reconsidered and decided to attend the meeting. He is now concerned that this request was inappropriate and possibly a violation of open meetings rules. While he felt that Glaze's intentions were good, he felt that it was a procedural violation and that this type of action should be avoided in the future.

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

- X. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Hollis, Manager
Office of Community Services