

**Human Right Commission
October 3, 2006, 2006 Meeting Minutes**

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

Members Excused: Randy Cole

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Steve Hollis, Nanette Ward, Alicia Cornish, Shawna Victor

- I. **Call to Order/Introductions:** 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 Snell and passed unanimously.
- III. **Approval of 9/5/06 Meeting Minutes:** Glasgow made a motion to approve the September 5, 2006 minutes. The motion was seconded by Thomas and passed unanimously.
- IV. **Old Business**

- A. **Discussion of incident at Columbia Mall in 2/06 and subsequent inquiry:** Ward said she attended the community meeting on October 1, 2006. An alderman from St. Louis gave a presentation and a citizen review board is a win-win situation. A proposed ordinance was submitted to the City Council on October 2, 2006.

Glaze said she attended a Human Rights Conference and the consensus was that it would be better to have an ad hock committee for a review board rather than an ordinance appointing people. The thought behind this is to have a review board of people who are not appointed by those who are in power but just ordinary citizens.

- B. **Discussion of current relations with Islamic community:** Glaze said there was an incident a few weeks ago where a member of the Islamic community's home was raided by the FBI.

Thomas said he believes it is out of the purview of the commission since this was done by the FBI. He believes the commission should keep an open dialogue with the Islamic community.

Snell agreed with Thomas and believes the commission should keep in touch with the Islamic community.

There was discussion about who the commission should contact at the Mosque.

Steve Jacobs, Peace Coalition, said this raid has had negative effects of the Islamic community. He gave background information on the charity that was raided in October 2004 and the charity the FBI said they were investigating for this raid. He suggested the commission draft a resolution for the City Council to approve requesting the FBI to expedite this case and apologize if there is no wrong doing found.

David Finke, former HRC Chair, said the roll of this commission is to be the consensus of the community; the voice for those who are voiceless. He believes this

is an issue the commission should advise the City Council of.

Glaze thanked Jacobs and Finke for their comments. She noted if the commission does make any sort of proposal to council it would only be a recommendation.

V. **New Business:** No new business at this time.

VI. **Staff Reports**

A. **Community Services:** Hollis said the HREP proposals have been submitted. The commission will conduct the agency hearings on October 25 at 5:00 p.m. The commission is scheduled to make their funding recommendation decision at the November 7 meeting.

PrideFest submitted their final report. This event has grown significantly over the last few years.

Hollis suggested having a quarterly funding process for HREP instead of yearly. This has been discussed before by the commission and the commission will discuss it again in the beginning of 2007.

Hollis said he is proposing additional staff for Human Rights. This would help current staff with community circles and possibly with the Diversity Breakfast planning. The commission agreed to support this proposal.

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

C. **Investigator/Community Educator:** Ward gave the following study circles report:

- Promotion of September Community Circle on KOMU and KFRU. Also, media releases promoting event.
- September Community Circle. Approximately 50 people attended. Good media coverage of event.
- Two interns – Iman Labadia and Dan Webber.
- Upcoming events: MU TDOOL, YOU in Mizzou, October Community Circle co-sponsored by HRC And Columbia Disabilities Commission, Descendents of Abraham meeting, "Let's Talk, Columbia!" preparations.

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):** Snell 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. Glaze called the roll with the following vote: Glaze – Yes, Paredes – Yes, Thomas – Yes, Glasgow – Yes, English – Yes, Snell - Yes.

The commission went back into open session.

X. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Hollis, Manager
Office of Community Services