

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Minutes of August 10, 2010
Special Meeting

Present: Kirsten Lindbloom, Jake Vela, Amy Wangen, Steve Wald, Kristi Beckman, Lysie Moritz, Kathryn Martin, and Tricia Wiechmann (city liaison).

Absent: Ron Langrell and Aaron Stewart.

Meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm by Commissioner Lindbloom. Subject of meeting is the Blue Cross/Blue Shield grant.

Review of grant progress:

The Human Rights Commission applied for a \$50,000 grant from Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The purpose of the grant is to work on immigration issues in our community by partnering with other entities. We were asked to apply for monies separately from the Welcome Center, and then to work together once grant money is awarded.

Commissioner Lindbloom has had contact with Blue Cross/Blue Shield approximately 12 times and they are changing the terms of grant. We have already agreed to stipulations such as educational training programs for the Commission (which was not part of the original grant requirement).

Current status:

Blue Cross/Blue Shield now has offered a \$40,000 grant. It is in the form of a challenge grant. They are offering \$20,000 up front. They want us to raise an additional \$20,000. They will then give an additional \$20,000.

Possible counter offers were discussed, including:

- A) Tell them we are no longer interested in the grant.
- B) Offer to raise \$10,000 cash funding along with \$10,000 in-kind donations.
- C) Counter with less than \$10,000 cash funding along with a higher amount of in-kind donations.

Commission had further discussion of possible cash funding sources and the need to alter the work plan if we do not get the full amount.

Motion and vote:

Commissioner Wangen moved to make a counter offer to Blue Cross/Blue Shield that we will raise \$10,000 cash funding and \$10,000 in-kind donations. Commissioner Moritz second, motion passed unanimously.

Other Business:

Commissioner Wangen informed us that Justice Alan Page will be unable to be our guest speaker for MLK celebration, but his office suggested that he would be interested in coming to Austin another time; perhaps March, April or May of 2011. Commissioner Wangen will continue to be in contact with their office for future arrangements.

Commissioner Beckman moved to adjourn at 5:33 pm. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Martin, secretary