

**Human Rights Commission**  
**August 27, 2013**

Present: Lysie Moritz, Jake Vela, Steve Wald, Aaron Stewart, Kathryn Martin and Trish Wiechmann (city liaison).

Absent: Ojoye Akane, Darya Gemmel and Kirsten Lindbloom.

Guests: Dan Kane and Kyle Keenan.

Meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm by Commissioner Moritz.

1) Agenda

Commissioner Vela moved to adopt the agenda as written, Commissioner Wald second, motion passed.

2) Minutes

Commissioner Stewart moved to adopt the minutes of the July 9, 2013 meeting, Commissioner Moritz second, motion passed.

3) Treasurer's Report

One paid expense: \$141.74 for pots for the mosaic class at the Artworks Festival. One unpaid expense: \$100.00 for our booth fee for the Artworks Festival. Our available budget will be \$2,873.01.

4) Reports and Discussion

Mosaic Class – Commissioner Vela thanked the Commission for their help in sponsoring the class. He reported the class went for four evenings, two hours each evening, with a total of 28 students participating. Participants were multi-cultural, with good discussions and the teachers would like to do it again.

Artworks Festival – Commissioners Moritz, Lindbloom and Vela were at the HRC booth. They gave out a coloring sheet with flower pots with inspirational quotes, HRC buttons, and English and Spanish brochures. It was good to be near the various booths to connect with and continue to form new ideas. Promotion of the Festival included word of mouth, email blasts and a notice Austin Daily Herald.

Programming Subcommittee – See the minutes from their meeting. The focus on the use of the budget included MLK Jr Day, the Essay contest, and a Film Festival this fall. Discussion on how to identify topics relevant to our community and ways to engage the community. Discussion on presence at upcoming events that may be sponsored by our partners.

New Member Recruiting – We will promote on our website, on Facebook and personally recruit new members.

Survey Response – Monday at 6pm and Wednesday at 6pm are the best times. Trish will send another email to see which one of those 2 times is the best.

#### 5) New Business

Nathan Banda is a self published author who attended Riverland Community College. He wants to come to Austin to promote his book, “Moments that Shaped My Life”. He is seeking some support. We want to invite him to a meeting or meet with him separately. Discussion about possibly sponsoring him and shaping an event around a theme.

#### 6) Other Business

Start thinking about ideas for Martin Luther King Jr Day in January.

#### 7) Communications

Commissioner Vela will contact Nathan Banda, and Commissioner Lindbloom regarding the fall Film Festival.

Trish Wiechmann will email regarding new time for meetings.

There is a vacant position with a term that will expire on December 31, 2013.

#### 8) Citizens addressing the Commission

Dan Kane asked how many total vacancies are on the Commission. He also inquired as to how many years the Commission has had a yearly budget of \$3,500.00.

Kyle Keenan stated he was in attendance as a member of the Vision 20/20 Committee and also as a citizen. He stated he went to the Mosaic Class. He thought it was a community builder. As a business owner he appreciates these types of powerful events. He believes such events build our community intellectually, and economically, because if we represent openness people will want to come here and stay. He received business from the event and so did El Mariachi. 150 people contributed to the large mosaic. He would like to see Taste of Nations Downtown if possible. He stated he appreciated the HRC.

9) Commissioner Vela made a motion to adjourn at 6:53 pm. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathryn Martin, secretary