



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Monday June 24, 2013

**5:30 – 6:30 pm in City Hall Council Chambers
301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX 78701**

Chair Paul Rhea called the Commission Meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Paul Rhea, Chair	Tom Davis	Judy Cortez
Elizabeth Brenner	DeWayne Lofton	Sara Clarke

Human Resources Staff Present:

Jonathan Babiak, Administrator, Equal Employment/Fair Housing Office (EE/FHO)
Rose Xavier, EE/FHO Staff Liaison

1. CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

There were no citizen communications

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the April 22, 2013 regular meeting and the May 18, 2013 special called meeting were approved; Commissioner Cortez motion, Commissioner Davis seconded on a 5-0 vote. Commission member Clarke abstained. Commission member Reynolds was absent.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. 2013 Human Rights Commission goals and objectives were amended.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution from Susana Almanza, Director of People Organized in Defense of Earth and Her Resources (PODER) regarding urban farms in East Austin.

- i. Eleven citizens spoke on the current zoning in East Austin allowing urban farms.
- ii. Item was tabled for discussion at a later meeting. Commissioner Cortez Motion, Commissioner Brenner seconded on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner Reynolds was absent.

- b. Resolution from Human Rights Campaign regarding the City of Austin’s “Municipal Quality Index” rating.
 - i. Lauren Zurbrugg, Human Rights Campaign, spoke on the necessity of Austin to strive to score a full 100 points on the Municipal Quality Index.
 - ii. Recommendation adopting full support of City Council directing the City Manager to take proactive steps to score a full 100 points was approved on a 4-2 vote, Commissioner Davis motion, Commissioner Brenner second. Commission member Reynolds was absent.

5. STATUS OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. 2013 goals were divided into three categories: community discussion, outreach project and improvement of internal processes.
 - i. Community discussion will change to meeting with stakeholders.

6. STAFF BRIEFING

- a. Staff update on the creation of the Human Rights Commission Facebook page will be discussed at July meeting.
- b. Staff update on the number of employment discrimination complaints closed by EE/FHO.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Sara Clark is the newest member of the Human Rights Commission.
- b. LGBT Community Forum will be held on Saturday June 29th, 2-4pm at Faith Presbyterian Church.

ADJOURN

Chair Paul Rhea adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM without objection.