

# Orange County Human Relations Commission Minutes

**Monday, November 12, 2012  
Orange County Animal Services Building Conference Room**

M E M B E R S P R E S E N T			STAFF
Colin Austin	Gerald Ponder	Cynthia Stubbs	Tara Fikes
Joyce Preslar	Christine Kelly-Kleese	Preston Scott Phillips	
	Rollin Russell		
G U E S T S			
<i>Absent: James O. Anderson, Li-Chen Chin, Matthew Hughes, Robert Ireland, Shannon Jackson, Preston Scott Phillips, Joe Polich, Lori Schweickert, Annette Uhlenberg and Tiki Windley</i>			

Human Relations Commission (HRC) Chair Colin Austin called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

## **I. Minutes**

The minutes of the October 8, 2012 meeting were not approved due to the lack of a quorum.

## **II. County Updates**

Joyce Preslar attended the recent Affordable Housing meetings in Carrboro. The conversation centered on how to maintain/obtain affordable housing, the Tenant Bill of Rights document and the importance of considering transportation along with affordable housing.

Tara Fikes distributed copies of the final, BOCC approved County Advisory Board Policy, Human Relations Commission Policies and Procedures and the Commission Roster.

## **III. Subcommittee Meetings/Subcommittee Updates**

Staff was asked to update the Subcommittee Roster for the next meeting.

### ***Building Integrated Communities***

Scott did not have a progress report but will be contacting those on the list as members of the group for a meeting. Christine Kelly-Kleese mentioned that she attended the Wrist Tying event in the Burmese community recently.

### ***Student Essay Committee***

The Committee confirmed that the prize levels are \$100 - \$75 - \$50 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place for essay winners. Locating sponsors and asking the BOCC were mentioned as possible ways to generate the money. Fikes indicated that she would poll other HRCs to determine how they handle similar events.

### ***Emancipation Proclamation***

Rollin Russell reviewed the Preliminary Calendar of Events and the draft Proclamation acknowledging the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013. The need to publicize the Community Read was discussed and staff was asked to determine whether Durham Tech is on the County distribution

list for press releases. Further, there was discussion of holding a special screening of the new movie - "Lincoln" at the Chelsea Theater.

### ***Membership***

There was no update from this committee, just confirmation that there are currently two vacancies on the Commission.

### ***Pauli Murray Awards Committee***

The Committee has material from last year and just needs to confirm the due date for nominations. This will be done by the end of the week.

### ***Tenant Bill of Rights Ad-Hoc Committee***

Members were directed to the meeting minutes emailed by Lori Schweickert in October 2012.

## **IV. Advisory Board Annual Report/Workplan**

The Advisory Board's Annual Report/Workplan to the Commissioners is due in November. The report will be emailed to all HRC members for feedback.

## **V. Other Business**

- a. ***The Proclamation for Emancipation Proclamation Commemoration*** was reviewed by members present.
- b. ***The Commission Budget*** from Fiscal Year 2011 – 2012 was reviewed with Commission members. There was then discussion of the Rape Crisis fundraiser for December 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was recommended that an email be sent to Commission members strongly encouraging them to attend and support the fundraiser.
- c. ***The County Welcome Video*** discussed at the last meeting has now been removed from the county website after a citizen complaint.

There was a brief discussion regarding paper vs. electronic meeting agendas that will be continued at the next meeting.

The meeting then ended....

Respectfully Submitted:

Tara L. Fikes, Director