



**Orange County Human Relations Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**Monday, March 10, 2014**  
**Orange County Animal Services Building Conference Room**

M E M B E R S P R E S E N T			STAFF
Jamie Paulen	Gerald Ponder		James Davis
Monica Richard	Christine Kelly-Kleese		Tara Fikes
Robert Ireland	Natalie Turner		
Doris Brunson	Rollin Russell		
G U E S T S			
Lena Hu	Yuming Hu		

*Absent: Li-Chen Chin, Dominika Baran, Cynthia Stubbs, Matthew Hughes, Joe Polich, Preston Scott Phillips, Marc Xavier, and Joyce Preslar*

**I. Call To Order**

Chair Christine Kelly-Kleese called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. There being no quorum, matters of official business were not presented for vote.

**II. Introductions**

The members and staff introduced themselves to Lena Hu, first place winner of the High School Essay Contest. Lena's father, Yuming, was also in attendance.

**III. Student Essay Award Presentation**

Lena Hu read her winning essay and was presented with her award by Christine.

**IV. Minutes**

The February 2014 minutes were reviewed for accuracy.

**V. County Updates**

*Orange County Expo:*

Tara announced that the month of April is County Government Month. Orange County Government will host an expo at the University Mall on Friday, April 4, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for the community to meet the staff and board members and learn about the services provided through the County.

*Orange County Giving Campaign:*

James reminded the members that the County has a giving fund managed by the Triangle Community Foundation for citizens to make tax-deductible donations to listed County projects.

*Letter to County Manager Regarding Gender Equality:*

Members discussed the letter it plans to send to Assistant County Manager Cheryl Young regarding the HRC's role in addressing issues of gender equality. A copy of the draft letters will be sent to the members for comments and recommendations. The members will work on a final edit at the HRC meeting scheduled for Monday, April 14, 2014.

**VI. Subcommittee Updates**

*Executive Committee:*

Christine recommended that the HRC invite the Compass Center's Director, Ann Gerhardt, to an upcoming meeting.

*Building Integrated Communities (BIC):*

Christine informed the members that there is a document entitled "A Legal Advocacy Guide to Building Integrated Communities in North Carolina" that addresses BIC across the state. It references the issue of Day Laborers in Carrboro and Chapel Hill. Christine stated that the HRC's Building Integrated Communities subcommittee is currently focusing on addressing issues as voiced by the Karen and Burmese communities.

*Diversity Matters:*

Rollin invited the members to attend the Community Read on Monday, March 31, 2014 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Orange County Main Library in Hillsborough. Invitations were circulated to the members. Posters advertising the event were also made available to the members.

*Pauli Murray Awards:*

Gerald stated that there are preliminary plans to work in conjunction with Duke University's Pauli Murray Project to present the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pauli Murray Awards next year.

*Essay Contest/Poster Contest*

The members discussed how to increase student involvement in the essay and poster contests. It was recommended that the information about these contests be sent to the teachers prior to the start of the school year. It was also recommended that the BOCC present this information during their joint meeting with the Chapel Hill/Carrboro City and Orange County boards of education.

*Collateral Consequences:*

Robert reported that he will draft an annotated list of resources for ex-felony offenders.

**VII. Social Justice Goal**

Tara presented information about the Social Justice Goal and encouraged the members to become familiar with the goal and the Impact Tool. Tara further explained the benefits and barriers to implementing the goal and tool.

**VIII. Other Business/Announcements**

James informed the members that April is Fair Housing Month and requested a volunteer to read and receive the Fair Housing Month proclamation at the BOCC meeting on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. The members expressed gratitude to Tara and wished her a happy retirement.

**IX. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

James E. Davis, Jr.,  
Civil Rights Specialist