

Kern County Human Relations Commission
Kern County Administrative Complex
NOTE: **Third Floor Multi Purpose Room******
1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield
Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.
Monthly Meeting Agenda

Members present: Caves, Castaneda, Bernhart, Medina, Scales, Vivas, Singh

Members absent: Mitchell, Snyder, Williams

Staff: Goulart

Others: David Dooley, Nazar Kooner

The meeting was called to order by Chair Scales at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Scales welcomed new Commissioner Gurmeet Singh.

1. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Castaneda led the flag salute.

2. PUBLIC PRESENTATION: PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

None Heard

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tuesday January 13, 2015 Monthly Meeting

MOTION TO APPROVE WITH CORRECTIONS BY COMMISSIONER CAVES, Seconded by Commissioner CASTANEDA. VOTE: six ayes, Abstain: Singh

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a) Presentation by David Dooley, Founder of Advancing Parenting

Mr. Dooley provided an overview of the organization and showed the Commission the Advancing Parenting website, www.advancingparenting.org. Advancing Parenting is a Bakersfield-based nonprofit dedicated to ensuring the quality of parenting in communities by placing concise parenting tips on signs in public and private spaces where they can be viewed by many people (e.g., billboards, car windows and bumpers, building windows and glass doors, etc.)

Commissioner Caves asked Mr. Dooley about the organization's overhead. Mr. Dooley stated that there is no one else in the organization and there is no overhead other than the cost to produce decals and other marketing information. Mr. Dooley also provided information about previous small grants that he has received.

Commissioner Scales asked Mr. Dooley what he would like the Commission to do for him.

Mr. Dooley stated that he has already contacted all of the members of the Board of Supervisors about the potential for placing his organization's information on County vehicles.

COMMISSIONER CASTANEDA MADE A MOTION FOR THE COMMISSION TO WRITE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR ADVANCING PARENTING TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. COMMISSIONER CAVES SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE: FIVE AYES, ABSTAIN: BERNHART, MEDINA.

b) Approval of proposed revision to County Equal Employment Opportunity Plan

The Commission was provided a copy of the proposed revision to the County of Kern Equal Employment Opportunity Plan for review during the January meeting. Mr. Goulart reiterated the emphasis of the proposed revision was to include newly identified protected classes in the County plan in an effort to make the County plan consistent with State and Federal employment law. Mr. Goulart also stated that other minor revisions were mostly "housekeeping" and language related. Commissioner Medina commented that while he agreed with the revisions, he would like to ask the technical question, what would happen if the HRC did not approve the proposed revision. Mr. Goulart explained that most likely it would be noted by the Board of Supervisors and approved unless someone appeared and spoke in opposition to the changes.

COMMISSIONER CASTANEDA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE COUNTY EEO PLAN. CAVES SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE: ALL AYES.

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**

a) Planning Matrix

Commissioner Scales provided copies of the updated Planning Matrix and explained how the Commission intends to use the matrix. Commissioner Scales discussed, as an example, fourth quarter activities that occurred at

1 the end of the 2014 calendar year and Commissioner attendance at the
2 Martin Luther King Day breakfast.

3
4 The Commission discussed preparing a Proposition 47 Resource Guide.
5 Commissioner Medina said that presentation of the Guide can be an April
6 Agenda item to stay on target with completing the compilation of it during
7 the first quarter of 2015.

8
9 Commissioner Scales asked the Commission if they want to have a “civic
10 engagement” activity in the 3rd quarter of the year.

11
12 Commissioner Caves said he wants to have an event that maintains the
13 legitimacy and neutrality of the Commission. Commissioner. Caves
14 recommended an event to educate community members about the various
15 positions in County and City government and what the positions do.
16 Commissioner Caves said that if more people understand how elected
17 officials can have an impact on their lives it may be easier to get them to
18 become engaged in the political process.

19
20 Mr. Goulart asked if the Commission would be interested in sponsoring a
21 candidates’ forum for an upcoming election.

22
23 Commissioner Bernhart asked about having an open house type of event
24 that shares information about open positions on local boards and
25 commissions.

26
27 Commissioner Caves said that maybe a hybrid meeting that included both
28 issues could be beneficial.

29
30 Commissioner Medina recommended that a voter registration component
31 be included in whatever event that is conducted.

32
33 Commissioner Scales asked the other Commissioners what
34 tasks/roles/responsibilities they would be interested in taking with regard to
35 planning an event.

36
37 Commissioner Caves offered to send letters to the elected City and County
38 positions that the Commission may be interested in inviting to speak.

39
40 Commissioner Scales noted that the event should take place in September
41 2015 and updated the Planning Matrix.

42
43 Commissioner Vivas asked about the type of marketing that would be needed.
44 Commissioner Scales discussed strategies for disseminating information.

1 Commissioner Vivas offered to prepare marketing materials such as flyers.
2 Commissioner Medina offered to draft a Community Voices article for the
3 Bakersfield Californian to announce the event and said he could be
4 responsible for Media. Commissioner Bernhart offered to handle
5 logistics/set up.
6

7 Commissioner Scales asked the other Commissioners to think about what
8 assignments they are interested in for a fourth quarter activity to revisit
9 Proposition 47 and be prepared to discuss during the March Commission
10 meeting.

11 Commissioner Medina proposed that the Commissioners think about an
12 activity for the second quarter and come to the March meeting prepared to
13 share suggestions.
14

15 b) Committee participation
16

17 Tabled to March meeting.
18

19 c) Discussion of Commission Mission Statement
20

21 Tabled to March meeting.
22

23 6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

24
25 a) Community & Media Outreach – Medina, Scales
26

27 b) Education/Essay Contest – Scales, Mitchell
28

29 c) Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action – Mitchell
30

31 d) Grants/Funding – Medina
32

33 e) Housing – Bernhart
34

35 f) Judicial & Legislative Review – Scales, Caves
36

37 g) Law Enforcement – Castaneda
38

39 h) Special Issues – Bernhart
40

41 i) Access and Functional Needs – Bernhart
42

43 j) Annual Report Ad-hoc Committee – Mitchell, Chair, Scales
44

45 k) HRC/Community/Sheriff's Department Collaborative Ad-Hoc –
46 Medina, Scales

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2 7. **STAFF REPORT:** Mr. Goulart told Commissioners that Security staff was
3 available to take Commissioner pictures for ID Badges. Commissioners
4 were also informed of the cost to purchase business cards. Mr. Goulart said
5 that there is no money budgeted for the purchase of business cards in this
6 fiscal year.

7
8 Mr. Goulart reminded the Commission that there is money in an account
9 that they may wish to use for business cards and he would try to research
10 for pricing from other vendors to purchase cards prior to the March meeting.

11
12 8. **COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENTATION OR ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

13
14 Commissioner Vivas told the Commission that the "McFarland, U.S.A."
15 movie will be coming out on February 20, 2015. Mr. Vivas said he believes
16 that that movie will be very positive and something for the entire community
17 of McFarland to be proud of.

18
19 Commissioner Medina said that Community Action Partnership of Kern
20 (CAPK) will have a table on Saturday, Feb. 21, during the first weekend of
21 release, to provide information on all of the programs that are available
22 through the organization.

23
24 Commissioner Bernhart asked if anyone knows a business or land owner in
25 the downtown Bakersfield area that has a building with a tunnel intact he
26 would like to get their contact information. Commissioner Bernhart said he
27 is on the City Historic Preservation Commission and one of their projects is
28 to open up tunnels for commercial or educational purposes in anticipation
29 of high speed rail coming to town. He believes this could promote tourism
30 and educational opportunities.

31
32 Commissioner Scales said that she would like to create a contact matrix of
33 Commissioners.

34
35 Mr. Goulart said that there is currently a contact list and he asked
36 Commissioners to send him any updates to their contact information.

37
38 Commissioner Scales said that she would like to have formal headshots
39 and a group picture taken at the March meeting to use when submitting an
40 Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors.

41
42 Based on the length of the presentation by Mr. Dooley, Commissioners
43 discussed the need to be mindful of the time limits for public presentations
44 during future meetings.

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46 9. **Adjournment**

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MOTION TO ADJOURN: COMMISSIONER CASTANEDA, SECOND:
COMMISSIONER BERNHART, ALL AYES.

These minutes are prepared and respectfully submitted for KCHRC review
by Kern County Staff Michael Goulart following initial review by the
Appointed Commission Secretary.