

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 12, 2011

ATTENDANCE: Neil Chikazawa, Tobias Guzmán, Jenna Finley, David Munoz, Todd Schuster, Christy Shirazi  
Staff representatives: Sharon McCabe and Lieutenant David Spies

Minutes for the November 14, 2011 meeting were approved as submitted.

Commission Chair Tobias Guzmán asked for nominations for the *Spread Hope, Dream Big, Inspire Others* Community Award.

Christy Shirazi nominated Maria Sanchez, executive director of Realizing Our Community. There was discussion regarding whether Maria Sanchez was the nominee or whether it should be Realizing Our Community. Christy clarified that her nomination was for Maria Sanchez individually. In support of this nomination Christy reviewed and distributed a written summary of initiatives and issues in which Ms. Sanchez had been involved. Commissioner Dave Munoz supported this nomination and read supporting information he had previously prepared.

Neil Chikazawa nominated Right to Read and provided written information on their program and its impact on the community. Several commented that they were unaware of and impressed with the extent of the programs Right to Read offered.

At the November meeting, several other possible nominees were mentioned but many of the members making the nomination were not in attendance. Commission members in attendance at the meeting expressed regret that several members were absent but had not sent notification that they would be unable to attend this meeting.

As no other nominations were forthcoming, after additional discussion and clarification, a motion was made in support of the nomination of Maria Sanchez as recipient of the community award for 2012. The motion passed unanimously.

Neil Chikazawa and Tobias Guzman will begin work on a 5-7 minute video showcasing Maria Sanchez's accomplishments and impact on our community that will be shown at the January 17, 2012 MLK program.

Tobias reported that the MLK Day planning committee continues to meet and has selected and contracted with Toure' as the key note speaker. Information on Toure' and his topic will be e-mailed separately to Commission members. The MLK Day program agenda is being finalized.

Tobias reported that he, Dave Munoz and Neil Chikazawa attended the Council meeting at which Tobias gave the triennial review report to City Council. City Council was very receptive to the report and thanked the Commission for their work and efforts.

Dave Munoz reported that the State-wide HRC coalition has decided on the name of "Colorado Association of HRCs and Partners" for the collaborative. A sub-group in Colorado Springs will research funding possibilities. The group plans to have three conference calls each year to share information.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.