

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

October 7, 2013

Civic Center

Members Present: George Francis-Pro Tem Chairman; Al Garcia, Leigh Irvin, Beth Volkerding, Charles Kromer, Lynn Love and Mark Marquez

Members Absent: David John-Chairman

Staff Present: Bob Campbell, Assistant City Manager; Joanna Oliver, Secretary

Guests Present: Melissa Meehan

CALL TO ORDER

Pro-Tem Chairman George Francis called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm with a quorum of members present; the following procedures were duly had and taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charles Kromer moved to accept the September 3, 2013 minutes. Al Garcia seconded. Motion carried.

AHOLA PROGRAM

Melissa Meehan gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation of the Aloha Program aimed at bringing all cultures together and let them know that they are important in Farmington. After much discussion, it was determined that this start up program would be generalized and defined by the CRC and if adopted, they would implement the program.

CHAP DISCUSSION

Bob Campbell addressed the Commission regarding C.H.A.P. and the challenges of keeping it going and the potential of the program. He stated that the City hopes that the CRC will keep supporting the C.H.A.P program. The City has decided to give the program administrative support from City staff.

OLD BUSINESS

NATIVE AMERICAN INITIATIVE TALKING POINTS

Bob Campbell gave the Commission the updated Initiative Talking Points with changes made from last meeting. Mark Marquez motion to accept with Number 8 reworded. Al Garcia seconded.

FOOD FESTIVAL

Bob Campbell opened up this discussion stating that the Community Relations Commission could provide space and then invite various clubs and organizations to bring the food. After some discussion it was decided to hold it in September 2014 on a Saturday. Leigh motioned for this to be tabled until the March 2014 regular meeting. Al Garcia seconded.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

Bob Campbell handed out the 2005 letter regarding how the City of Farmington has made great strides and improvement in regards to the Civil Rights of the Native Americans. He also stated that after the CRC's presentation to the City Council on September 10th, Councilman Sandel stated that the Commission should ask the NM State of Indian Affairs to be mediators between the City of Farmington and the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission. Bob Campbell will draft a letter to the State of Indian Affairs for the Commission to look at and discuss at the November meeting. Leigh motioned to table until next regular meeting in November. Mark Marques seconded.

Lynn Love introduced the Civility Book that was handed out to all the Commissioners. He stated that not only does it give some education for the community; it also shows how to be good customers and to give good customer service. Mark Marquez motioned to have someone come in at the next regular meeting and talk more in depth about the book. Lynn Love seconded.

COMPLAINTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

CITIZEN INPUT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.


George Francis, Pro-Tem Chairman


Joanna Oliver, Secretary