

JOINT MEETING
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION AND
NAVAJO NATION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

MINUTES

August 9, 2010

10:00 AM

DINE COLLEGE

CRC Members Present: David John, Chairman; Karen Bayless, Chairman Pro-Tem; Art Allison, Eugene Baker, Randy Joslin, Francis Mitchell

CRC Members Absent: Catalina Liles, Emet Rudolfo

NNHRC Members Present: Duane "Chili" Yazzie, Chairman; Clarence Chee, Irving Gleason, Steve Darden

Ex-Officio Members Present: Melissa Charlie, Marlene Sandoval

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Joyce Donald

City Representatives Present: Bob Campbell, Assistant City Manager; Elizabeth Isenberg, Government Relations Director; Lisa Hutchens, Administrative Assistant

NNHRC Representatives Present: Leonard Gorman, Executive Director; Charlene Smith, Office Assistant; Rodney Tahe; Policy Analyst; Jennifer Balen, Attorney, Rochelle Todea; Public Information Officer

Guests Present: Rudy Moya, Gary Bernally, Donovan Begay, Matthew Amsden, Zang Wood, Steve Lynn, Kenneth Ellison, James Monchamp, Grace Sage-Musser, Pete Valencia, Earnie Zah, Malula Sandoval, Samuel Sandoval, Kenneth Lee,

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David John at approximately at 10:38 am and there being a quorum of members present, the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

INVOCATION

Francis Mitchell offered the invocation.

WELCOME

Duane "Chili" Yazzie welcomed all in attendance and asked guests and staff to introduce themselves. Chairman Yazzie apologized for the late start of the meeting.

AGENDA ACCEPTANCE

Commissioner Gleason moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Darden accepted. No discussion took place. Motion passes.

PROPOSED MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Chairman Yazzie explained that the Navajo Nation is attempting to enter into Memorandums' of Agreement with each border town. Discussion on this MOA started with Mayor Bill Standley and has transferred to Mayor

Tommy Roberts. Certain language suggestions were made by Mayor Roberts. The purpose of this joint meeting is to come to an understanding on the agreement. Chairman Yazzie suggested, in the interest of time, to focus on the specific areas that need consensus.

After much discussion, Commissioner Karen Bayless stated that she found the proposed language on Attachment C acceptable with some minor changes. Eugene Baker stated he felt the same way. More discussion took place. Eugene Baker moved to accept the wording with one change (remove "and racism" from the fourth paragraph, Attachment C). Randy Joslin seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Citizen input: Zang Wood – the racism story goes both ways in all communities. The Bible says to forgive and forget. Chairman Yazzie agreed and stated the NNHRC acknowledges reverse discrimination as well.

Donnelley Begay – has experienced racism on many levels. Appreciates leaders are speaking on behalf of those discriminated against.

Roy Moya – represents 400 Native Americans who are out of work. Why are out of town people taking jobs from the locals? Highly skilled laborers are here to do the work.

James Monchamp – does not trust the City. Would like to identify businesses that discriminate and look at the economic impact. He is working with Art Allison on a similar project.

Other Business – Chairman Yazzie acknowledged Mr. Samuel Sandoval, Navajo Code Talker, present at the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Eugene Baker moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve Darden seconded. Motion carried.

David John, Chairman

Lisa Hutchens, Secretary