



**COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
MINUTES – JULY 28, 2009**

**Permit and Resource Management Department
2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa CA 95403**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Judy Boyce (Officer-at-Large), Patricia Boyd, Ida M. Johnson, Chris Rohde (Vice-Chair), Judy Rice (Chair), Art Warmoth

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Ann Zimmer

INTERN PRESENT: Gerry Meyer

VISITORS PRESENT: Dale Geist, Roger Young

I. CALL TO ORDER - INTRODUCTIONS:

Rice called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM.

II. CONSENT ITEMS:

The Agenda for July 28, 2009 was approved; July 7, 2009 Strategic Planning for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Session I Minutes were approved, Rohde motioned, Boyce seconded. The June 30, 2009 Commission Minutes were also approved, Boyd motioned, and Boyce seconded.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

IV. COMMISSION UPDATE:

Swearing in of New Commissioners:

None. Note: Boyd was previously sworn in at the Board of Supervisors Office.

Appointments and Openings:

The vacancies are: two (2) in the 1st District, one (1) in the 2nd District, none (0) in the 3rd District, two (2) in the 4th District, and two (2) in the 5th District, totaling seven openings (7).

De Priest in the 5th District has resigned. Mike Kerns is a possible candidate for District 2.

V. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES:

Supervisor Communication Updates:

Rice met with Efred Carrillo and discussed 1) creating a system to encourage / recruit volunteers, and then effectively using those volunteers; 2) creating a CHR

Junior Commission, with the primary goal of recruiting at grade school level; 3) developing a needs assessment for 2009-2010.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

Strategic Planning:

The next strategic planning session date was discussed. Two dates suggested were August 25th 1-5 p.m., prior to the Commission meeting, or Friday, August 28.

Transition:

Impact of County budget cuts on the Commission was discussed.

Family Justice Center & Violence Prevention Council:

Boyd was appointed as liaison to the Family Justice Center & Violence Prevention Council. Boyce motioned, Warmoth seconded.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

2009 Human Rights Awards Program and Possible Event:

Officers will meet to obtain an Awards Program / Event 'to do' list.

Race Equality Event:

Need a 'to do' list. Boyce will contact Jim de Priest for the Race Equality Week meeting August Agenda.

Commission on Human Rights Junior Commission Project:

Report, discussion, and possible action on upcoming August 24, 2009 meeting with Karen Famini (1st District Commissioner on the Commission on the Status of Women), Rice and Boyd regarding implementing a CHR Junior Commissioner Project.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Attendance Report Distribution:

Attendance report was distributed to Commissioners. Ida M. Johnson was marked as missing two meetings at which she was present.

Correspondence:

None.

IX. ACTIVITY REPORTS:

Strengthening The Commission:

ABC Plan. Rice will get "Community Aspirations" from Commission staff.

Distribution, review, and discussion of first quarterly Commission Newsletter.

Outreach to the Public:

◇ **Events:**

Race Equality Week Festival

◇ **Educating:**

Rohde will visit high schools in August urging them to include "Essence of Acceptance" program during the 2009-10 academic year.

Partnerships with Organizations & Agencies:

◇ **Human Rights Organizations:**

Human Trafficking Liaison:

Reorganizing, will meet tomorrow.

Elder Abuse Liaison:

Great success.

◇ **Community Organizations/Agencies:**

Discussion regarding possibility of Commissioners becoming liaisons to other organizations and groups that are involved with Human Rights issues such as: Committee for Immigrants Rights, Rites of Passage, and Latino Democratic Club was discussed.

X. DISTRICT REPORTS, COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENT REPORTS:

- None.

XI. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 25, 2009 at 5:30 PM.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

Rice adjourned the meeting at 7:10 PM.