



Jacksonville Human Rights Commission
Community Relations Committee
Wednesday May 1, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Attending:	William "Casey" Bulgin, Committee Chair
	Crystal Freed
	Kenneth "Ken" Middleton
	Parvez Ahmed
	Cristina "Tina" Comstock
	Michael Wachholz
	Cindy Watson
Commissioners Absent:	Dottie Wilson
Staff Present:	Charlene Taylor Hill
	Joan Dolbear

I. **Call to Order**

Commissioner Casey Bulgin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

II. **Old Business**

A. **Civil Discourse Project**

The panel discussion model for Civil Discourse is working as implemented through OneJax. However, a digital discussion board for the topic should begin two to three weeks prior to the event to start the discussion. There has been discussion to have the Florida Time-Union provide the resources for the digital platform, but resources have not been available to support the project. At the next meeting, Commissioner Parvez Ahmed and his colleague will share their research paper on the "Civil Discourse Model." Representatives from the Florida Times-Union, OneJax, WJCT and UNF will be asked to attend future meetings.

B. **Hate Crimes Working Group**

A date has not been set for the next educational panel discussion. The next topic will be on human trafficking.

C. **Human Trafficking**

Commissioner Crystal Freed recommended that a large event be planned on January 11, 2014, (Human Trafficking Day). An all-out launch should begin three months prior to the event to market the event with the use of billboards,



PSA's and television and radio advertising.

Possible speakers could be Luis C. deBacca, USAmbassador in the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons or Pam Bondi, Attorney General for the State of Florida.

To lay the foundation for the large event, a smaller program may be planned—"An Evening with Terry Coonan" held at WJCT and sponsored by Friends of Study Circles. Terry Coonan is Executive Director of the Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. The small event would take place during the September 2013 timeframe. Commissioner Freed will find out Terry Coonan's availability.

Commissioner Ahmed stated the committee should look into how to get victims to speak at affinity groups in small settings to get the word out. The topic of the Safe Harbour Act should also be discussed.

A timeline for the events will be discussed during the next meeting.

III. New Business

Ms. Hill stated a request for a special meeting has come forth from the President of the League of United Latin American Center to discuss the handling of education, housing and employment issues for Hispanics.

JCCI contacted the JHRC regarding possible agencies that would be interested in funding the Race Relations Progress Report.

The Human Rights Campaign, the largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans, is targeting Florida, including the City of Jacksonville, to change its ordinances to include civil rights protection for the LGBT community.

Ms. Hill and the Ethics Officer for the City are working together to construct a one-page document for all Boards and Commissions to utilize on how to address inappropriate comments at meetings.

IV. Next Steps

V. Announcements

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 17, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.