

JUNEAU HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION
MINUTES

Saturday March 30, 2013 (Noon) 12p.m.
Juneau Valley Library Conference Room

I. **Call meeting to order** – the meeting came to order at 12:10p.m.
Members present were: Alavini Lata, Steve Wolf, Washington Parks, Devyn Reece,
and Haifa Sadighi

Also present: Acting Clerk Beth McEwen

II. **Additions to Agenda** – None.

III. **Approval of minutes** from 2/18/2013 – none were provided.

IV. **Public Participation/ Announcements:**

Beth McEwen stated that she was present to observe the work of the commission as well as to ask some questions about the retreat mentioned on the agenda and whether or not the commission will be submitting a budget request to the Assembly for FY14 which begins July 1, 2013.

V. **Old Business:**

a. **Review writing rubric (re: Student Essay Contest)**

A total of 32 essays were received from 6, 7, and 8th graders answering the question: “What role does human rights play in your life?”

Steve Wolf gave an overview of the rubric he distributed to the members and explained the process he hoped they would use in scoring the essays. The commission members went through the exercise of scoring one of the essays as a sample and the members will take the packet of essays home to work on between now and the next meeting on Monday, April 1. They are to forward the scores of the top five essays to Steve in advance of the meeting. Steve will be notifying members as to which essays are from which grade levels as the final awarding was to be done according to the top scores for each grade.

b. **Discuss entries** – Prior to distributing the entries, Steve redacted the names of each of the students so all scoring could be done in an impartial manner. Once the top essays are determined for each grade, Steve will then match up the student’s name to the appropriate essay. Beth had asked if the Juneau Empire was having a representative participate in this part of the process since they are a main sponsor of the contest. The commission invited them to participate but no one stepped forward from the newspaper. They will be publishing the winning essay however.

The commission will discuss the final prize awards at its meeting on April 1 and determine the method for awarding the prizes (cash, gift card, or ???) and will notify the clerk’s office of the method decided upon and submit a request for the funds to be provided from their budget.

c. **Discuss ideas for Spring events I AM JUNEAU 2013**

Members discussed the cultural potluck picnic scheduled for Savikko Park (Sandy Beach) for Saturday, May 11. Vini believes that the shelter has been reserved but isn’t sure if payment has been made. He will work with clerk’s staff on making sure payment is made as well as any funding necessary for the necessary supplies. The commission will also discuss the final details of the date for this event at its April 1 meeting and send a confirmation email to the clerk’s office for scheduling/public notice purposes.

d. Pick a date for retreat

Discussion took place regarding the facilitator as well as date/time/location for a possible retreat. Beth has facilitated retreats for other CBJ Boards and the commission felt it would be best to have her facilitate the retreat rather than asking for someone from outside of CBJ.

Some of the main points that they discussed covering during a retreat were:

- Review the commission's mission/focus (governing legislation and charge from the Assembly);
- Evaluate the work of the commission over the past year and set goals on what they would like to accomplish in the future – including:
 - Identifying timelines for specific projects
 - Identify ways to work more efficiently as a commission
- Establish some clear understandings on their role/relationship with the Assembly as well as other groups in the community who are involved in human rights issues;
 - Cover some, general training re: rules of CBJ Boards (members will attend the general board training offered by the Clerk's office later this year to get more in depth information on this item.)
- Identify any holes in the community pertaining to human rights should be addressed but are not currently being addressed by any group... and possibly other subjects.

Members will bring their top ideas with them to the next meeting to try to finalize a retreat agenda. The commission decided to tentatively schedule the retreat for Saturday, April 20 from 9am-2pm with the location to be announced.

VI New Business: Members will be discussing the FY14 budget requests at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: **Monday** April 1, 2013 City Building Conference Room #224

X= present

A= absence

C= cancelled

NAME/ DATE	1/14	1/28	2/11	2/28	3/11	3/25 Holiday	3/2 9						
Alavini Lata	x	x	x	x	x	C	x						
Washington Parks	x	x	x	x	x	C	x						
Steve Wolf	a	a	x	x		C	x						
Ed Hotch	x	a	x	x		C	A						
Duncan Garcia-Talome	a	a	a	A		Vacant seat							
Anthony Reece				x	x	C	x						
Haifa Sadighi				x		C	x						

Draft Minutes respectfully submitted March 30, 2013 by Acting Clerk Beth McEwen.