

METROPOLITAN HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 21, 1971
3:00 p. m. , Water Services Building Auditorium

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Marlene Bayless, Paul Bender, Dr. Lewis,
Richard Brownstein, Thelma Wilson,
Mark Holmes, Richard Boyer, Rose
Marie Scott, James Jackson, Tom Sloan

Excused: Dr. Unthank, Walter Sakai, Dr. Gregory
Lee Brown, Fred Rosenbaum

Staff Present: Russell Peyton, Jim Sitzman

Visitors: Vera Katz, Robert Nelson, Charles
Bradwell, Deputy Chief Carr, Ron Buel,
The Clark Press, The Oregonian

MINUTES of last meeting approved as mailed.

EMANUEL HOSPITAL URBAN RENEWAL

Chairman Brownstein asked the director to introduce for the Commission the subject of Emanuel Hospital Urban Renewal. The director read a letter addressed to Mr. John Kenward of the Portland Development Commission which the Commission had prepared following receipt of numerous complaints. It was hoped that this letter would elicit the opportunity to discuss means of resolving some of these issues. The reply acknowledging the letter stated that any complaints we had received should be forwarded to PDC for action.

The Chairman opened the floor to discussion by members and guests. Discussion took place for nearly ninety minutes. Following are key portions of the discussion and the resulting decision.

Mr. Robert Nelson, staff of the Emanuel Displaced Persons Association, stated that in his estimation the basic problems concerning relocation of citizens from the Emanuel Project area are that people were not involved in development of a plan, they are now being forced to give up their homes without adequate compensation and that PDC is not living up to its signed agreement with EDPA, Model Cities, Planning Board, City Demonstration Agency, Housing Authority and Emanuel Hospital. He pointed out that since this agreement is part of the relocation plan the entire plan can be questioned as a valid document. He testified that there are still 134 families to be relocated.

In response to a question concerning the purposes of a hearing, Mr. Nelson stated that a hearing would serve to make visible the human suffering and to show what urban renewal does to a community. In response to further questioning, Mr. Nelson indicated that the concern was not only over the present situation but the overall actions of the Portland Development Commission. Mr. Bradwell of Albina Citizens Together gave examples of people injured and unfairly treated.

Vera Katz of the Comprehensive Health Plan summarized a report prepared by the CHP in which PDC was asked to review and revise its Emanuel Project plan for the area north of Monroe street. Their report outlined other requests aimed at aiding minority residents of the community. She indicated her support for a hearing.

Ron Buel, assistant to Commissioner Goldschmidt, recounted the conversation he had had with Fred Rosenbaum, chairman of the Housing Authority, in reference to the charge from EDPA that PDC is failing to abide by its signed agreement. Mr. Rosenbaum stated to Ron Buel that neither the Housing Authority nor Model Cities have been contacted by PDC since the agreement was completed in March of 1971.

Marlene Bayless moved and Tom Sloan seconded that a hearing on relocation in the Emanuel Project area be conducted by the Commission within the next two months. The motion was unanimously passed. The purposes of a hearing would be to : (1) determine from citizen testimony the nature of whatever problem exist; (2) to secure testimony on actions by PDC to comply with the agreement and (3) to get information that might be helpful in outlining a City policy for insuring adequate citizen participation in future PDC or other projects.

The chairman instructed staff to work with EDPA in drawing up a format for the hearing. He called for a special meeting of the Commission to review these plans before the hearing was held. With Commission consent, the chairman will appoint a small committee to work with staff in developing this format. Tom Sloan asked that the hearing be conducted in an informal style so that all attending may participate if they desire. It was agreed that PDC board members and staff together with members of the City Council should be notified in writing about the time and place of the hearing before it is held.

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The director read letters from Congressman Wendell Wyatt and Congresswoman Edith Green thanking the Commission for its role in negotiating the Hometown Agreement. Staff referred Commission members to the minutes of the Employment Committee meeting contained in the member's packets.

Marlene Bayless introduced the subject of City and County affirmative action and contract compliance policies, reiterating her feelings that the Commission should proceed with due speed in placing this matter before the City Council and Board of County Commissioners. Staff reported that material it had prepared on affirmative action and contract compliance clauses had been submitted for review and are awaiting opinions from the City Attorney and the District Attorney. The subject will be discussed further at the next meeting of the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p. m.



METROPOLITAN HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
Multnomah County — City of Portland
317 City Hall ■ Portland, Oregon 97204 ■ 228-6141 x 250

Russell A. Peyton
Director
Vernon Summers
Assistant
James R. Sitzman
Assistant
Gloria Johnson
Secretary

July 28, 1971

To: Members of MHRC

From: Russell Peyton

Re: Amendment to the Minutes of July 21, 1971

The minutes reflect that Ron Buel recounted a conversation he had with Fred Rosenbaum, chairman of the Housing Authority in reference to the charge from EDPA that PDC is failing to abide by its signed agreement. Mr. Ron Buel quoted Mr. Rosenbaum as stating that neither the Housing Authority nor Model Cities have been contacted by PDC since the agreement was completed in March, 1971.

Mr. Rosenbaum has asked that the record be corrected to show that he mentioned to Mr. Buel that to the best of his knowledge the Housing Authority had not been contacted by PDC relative to the Emanuel Hospital matter since the agreement was completed in March, 1971. He would have no knowledge of any such contact with Model Cities.

METROPOLITAN HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 1, 1971
3:00 p.m., Water Services Building Auditorium

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Marlene Bayless, Paul Bender,
Dr. Lewis, Richard Brownstein,
Thelma Wilson, Mark Holmes,
Richard Boyer, James Jackson, Tom
Sloan, Lee Brown

Excused: Dr. Unthank, Dr. Gregory, Walter
Sakai, Fred Rosenbaum, Rose Marie
Scott

Staff Present: Russell Peyton, Jim Sitzman, Vern
Summers, Gloria Johnson

Visitors: Deputy Chief Carr, Ron Buel

MINUTES of last meeting approved as mailed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Russ Peyton summarized a letter to MHRC from the Japanese American Citizens League concerning Title II of the Internal Security Act. JACL requests that MHRC declare its support of SB 592 and HR 234 now before the U.S. Congress. They also request that MHRC ask the City and County governments to support these bills and urge the Oregon Congressional delegation to vote in the affirmative. Lee Brown placed this recommendation in the form of a motion. It was seconded and carried unanimously.

The director read a letter from Walter Sakai noting that the City of Portland, if it is to receive funds for emergency employment, should subscribe to a policy of equal employment. He further indicated that to grant funds in the absence of an equal employment policy would be contrary to the Civil Rights Act. He further recommended that the chairman write a letter to the Manpower Administrator raising this issue. Tom Sloan agreed with the intent of Mr. Sakai's letter but amended the language in order to make reference to affirmative action. He moved that we direct a letter to the Department of Labor. The motion was seconded. Marlene Bayless asked if all federal contracts include a clause complying with the Civil Rights Act. Tom Sloan indicated that to his knowledge such is the case. The chairman then offered two points of concern: (1) do we want to jeopardize the emergency employment funds and (2) should the City be informed of our intention before sending the letter. Lee Brown asked if other federal funds such as those from HUD

and HEW would not be better targets for such action. Marlene Bayless suggested that Commissioner Goldschmidt be asked to introduce the matter of an affirmative action policy to the City Council. After some discussion Tom Sloan withdrew his motion in favor of this suggestion. The chairman polled the Commission for a consensus on the proposal to submit an affirmative action ordinance to Commissioners Goldschmidt and Padrow for action. A one month goal for completion was set. Background for the ordinance is to be the letter written by Walter Sakai. Tom Sloan moved adoption of this plan. It was seconded and carried unanimously. The chairman then requested that the executive director prepare and submit an ordinance in accord with the motion.

The director read a letter from the Mayor to the Metropolitan Youth Comm. and MHRC concerning disturbances by youth in the Model Cities area. He reported that following our contact with MYC several meetings were set up between youth, youth workers and police officers from the North precinct. It is hoped by those involved that meetings will also be held with East precinct officers. These meetings have been held at the Multi-Service Center and have been quite productive, although time will be the judge of final results.

The director reported that Dr. Gregory wishes the Commission to know he is not well enough to continue as a Commissioner and intends to resign. The chairman reappointed those who served on the last nominating committee to recommend candidates for the position vacated by Dr. Gregory.

A letter of thanks for help received which was sent to the director by Mrs. McKnight was read.

Jim Sitzman reported on replies from the U.S. Department of Labor concerning the Home Town Agreement. The letters stated that at this point the Agreement is not acceptable but promising. The points to be revised were described for the Commission. Discussion followed. The chairman suggested that to revise the Agreement is impractical. Tom Sloan assured him that the points in question could be changed and resubmitted.

EMANUEL HOSPITAL URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT

The chairman reported on progress to date on the hearing concerning relocation which the Commission voted at its last meeting to conduct at some point within a two month period. Lee Brown inquired about the reasons for cancelling the meeting allegedly scheduled for September 19th. He asked specifically about the reported lack of a quorum for the 19th and about the influence of a meeting between representatives of our Commission and the Portland Development Commission upon the cancellation of the August 19th hearing. The chairman assumed responsibility for there not being a hearing on the 19th conducted by MHRC and explained his reasons.

Bob Nelson, staff to the Emanuel Displaced Persons Association, requested the privilege of reading a letter from EDPA stating lack of confidence in the MHRC director and chairman. Permission was granted and the letter was read.

After additional discussion, Lee Brown moved and James Jackson seconded that arrangements be made to hold a public forum. During the ensuing discussion Mr. Ben Webb of PDC said that he was willing to hear and work with any and all complaints brought by residents facing relocation. Lee Brown called for the question. After re-reading the motion Mr. Brown made an amendment specifying that the public forum is to be held within the time period prescribed by the decision of the July 21st meeting. There being no further discussion a roll call was taken resulting in a nine to one vote favoring the motion.

The director brought to the attention of the commissioners a questionnaire prepared by staff for the purpose of securing thorough and accurate information needed in advance of the forum. The questionnaire was developed on the basis of three concerns: (1) that all 137 families to be relocated be given an opportunity to express their feelings; (2) that all these families have an open choice of relocation and (3) that they all be treated fairly in the process of being relocated. Without the information secured by the questionnaire little of value can be accomplished. Paul Bender made a motion that the questionnaire be used by the Commission for the reasons stated. The motion was seconded. Mr. Brown amended the motion to allow the commissioners until the coming Friday to consider the questionnaire and suggest changes. The motion was carried.

I. A. O. H. R. A. CONFERENCE

Vern Summers reported on the annual conference of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies. He recommended that the Commission adopt the recommendations included in his report. The chairman then read these recommendations. Marlene Bayless moved and it was seconded that we adopt the recommendation to request training sessions from IAOHRA for Commission members and staff. The motion was passed. A second recommendation was amended to read "Authorize staff to coordinate with other human relations commissions in the Northwest in order to form a Human Relations Association". This recommendation was moved, seconded and passed.

Following reference by the director to plans for a Commission Workshop, the chairman suggested that we enlist Dr. Gregory to outline a suitable plan. All agreed to wait for Dr. Gregory's report.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

METROPOLITAN HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 15, 1971
3:00 p.m., Conference Room 321, City Hall

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Mark Holmes, Rose Marie Scott,
Walter Sakai, Richard Brownstein,
Marlene Bayless, Thelma Wilson, Tom
Sloan

Excused: Lee Brown, Dr. Lewis, Dr. Gregory,
Dr. Unthank, Richard Boyer, Fred
Rosenbaum, James Jackson, Paul Bender

Staff Present: Russell Peyton, Vernon Summers, Jim
Sitzman, Gloria Johnson

Visitors: Keith Jones, Paul Bloom, Ron Enis,
Annie Allen

MINUTES of last meeting approved as mailed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Russ Peyton recalled that at the last meeting the Commission agreed to present a resolution to the City and County regarding repeal of the Internal Security Act, Title II. A resolution was submitted and passed by the City and County. A letter of appreciation from the Japanese American Citizens League for our support was read.

A letter from Loaves and Fishes was read thanking staff for assistance in acquiring a Tri-Met bus for transporting senior citizens to Blue Lake Park.

YOUTH PROBLEMS IN THE MODEL CITIES AREA

Russ Peyton invited Paul Bloom to outline what had been done this summer by the Metropolitan Youth Commission and MHRC regarding youth in the Model Cities area. Paul Bloom told of various complaints received from Model City residents. Several meetings with community workers were held resulting in discussions between police and youth in an attempt to solve the problems.

Mr. Bloom stressed that what we saw this summer is symptomatic of a much larger problem. We cannot afford to have another summer using bandage approaches. Planning will start now and involve both adults and youth. Mr. Bloom explained that a Youth Affairs Council has started in the Model Cities neighborhood. He invited any suggestions the Commission might have.

Paul Bloom expressed the desire that MHRC appoint two commissioners to work with MYC on youth concerns. The chairman agreed to make these appointments. Marlene Bayless volunteered to help.

The discussion continued focusing on priorities, facilities and programs in city parks, employment and Model Cities responsibilities for youth programs. Chairman suggested that uncoordinated use of money and manpower is one of our main problems. Russ Peyton noted that the Commission has frequently made suggestions for the development of a process to set priorities and determine use of available funds.

The director interrupted the agenda to announce that Fred Rosenbaum and Vern Summers have been appointed by the Governor to serve on the seven member State Housing Council. The chairman expressed congratulations on behalf of the Commission.

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

The director referred to the letter from Walter Sakai concerning the lack of an affirmative action employment policy in the City and County. He noted that as a result of this letter the Mayor wrote to all employees on September 1st stating the City's non-discrimination employment policy. It was reported that the Employment Committee has met to see what additional action is needed. Walter Sakai, reporting for the Employment Committee, stated that the Mayor's letter was appreciated but incomplete. It does not reflect an affirmative action plan. The Committee recommends that we proceed with drafting an affirmative action ordinance together with a detailed affirmative action program for presentation to Commissioners Goldschmidt and Padrow. Tom Sloan reported on a meeting with Commissioners Goldschmidt and Padrow in which they offered their assistance in initiating an affirmative action plan. The proposed ordinance and affirmative action program are to be circulated among the elected officials with time allowed for feedback. Marlene Bayless asked if we plan to include a contract compliance clause. Tom Sloan replied that on the recommendation of Commissioner Goldschmidt a contract compliance clause would be offered separately following action on the affirmative action plan.

EMANUEL HOSPITAL PROJECT

Referring to a questionnaire circulated in the Emanuel Project area, the director pointed out that there are about equal numbers of satisfied and dissatisfied residents. He reported that the committee concerned with relocation agreed to utilize the information secured by the questionnaire as a basis for our forum. The committee will meet with representatives of Emanuel Displaced Persons Association to review the questionnaire and arrange details of the forum. Tentative plans call for the forum to be held on September 21st at 7:30 p.m. in the Immaculate Heart School Auditorium. Persons indicating on the questionnaire a desire for a private hearing will be contacted.

Ron Enis, a staff member of Albina Community Action Center, questioned the use of police community relations aides to conduct the survey, suggesting that such association with the police department intimidated the residents. The condition leading to the involvement of police community relations aides was described. It was also noted that nothing in the questionnaire gives indication that residents were intimidated.

OMBUDSMAN

Chairman reported that the Commission recommendations concerning the ombudsman for City and County government are still being discussed with elected officials. In the meantime Doug Capps is surveying City and County departments with respect to their complaint procedures in order to better determine specific needs. Following discussion about the role of an ombudsman, the chairman suggested that the Commission wait for Mr. Capps' report before considering the matter further.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p. m.

METROPOLITAN HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Meeting of Nov. 17, 1971
3:00 p.m., Conference Room 321, City Hall

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Richard Boyer, Marlene Bayless, Richard Brownstein, Rose Marie Scott, Dr. Lewis, Lee Brown, Thelma Wilson, James Jackson

Excused: Walter Sakai, Mark Holmes, Tom Sloan, Fred Rosenbaum, Paul Bender, Dr. Unthank

Staff Present: Russell Peyton, Vern Summers, Jim Sitzman, Gloria Johnson

Guests: Deputy Chief Pat Carr, Sandra Moore, Keith Jones

MINUTES of last meeting approved as mailed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Vern Summers read a letter from the Department of Public Affairs addressed to the Administrative Review Committee concerning the Affirmative Action Agreement. Letters from Commissioner Clark to Russell Peyton were read stating his support for the Affirmative Action Agreement and for help on an employment complaint at the Detoxification Center.

MHRC AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Chairman reported that an ad hoc committee appointed by Commissioners Goldschmidt and Padrow is reviewing the role of MHRC in the light of Russell Peyton's retirement in 1972. Marlene Bayless and Richard Brownstein serve on the committee. Upon the chairman's request, Marlene stated that the committee is reviewing the Commission's structure and job descriptions with the idea of making any necessary changes. Interviews have been held with numerous community leaders. The committee will make recommendations on MHRC organization and function to Commissioners Goldschmidt and Padrow. A proposed job description for the executive director will also be drafted. Lee Brown suggested that the committee also talk to people who utilize the services of MHRC.

HOME TOWN AGREEMENT

Jim Sitzman reviewed a letter from the Office of Federal Contract Compliance stating that the Home Town Agreement has been sent to Washington, D. C. with his recommendation for approval. The Legal Department in Washington, D. C. has requested certification of certain signatures to the

Home Town Agreement, which we are in the process of providing.

EMANUEL HOSPITAL PROJECT

Vern Summers reported that thirty-one families have been relocated since the survey conducted in September. There have been no major complaints concerning relocation. The statistics come from Portland Development Commission.

ANNUAL DINNER

Thelma Wilson informed the Commission that the annual dinner will be held on December 10th at the Jantzen Thunderbird at 6:30 p. m. It will be no-host costing a total of \$5.80.

FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINEE PROGRAM

Vern Summers reported that MHRC has been involved for more than a year in an effort to come up with a trainee program. The Fire Bureau has requested that MHRC and other referral agencies help recruit minorities, which we are doing. Out of forty persons recruited to date nine are black. Marlene Bayless asked what is being done to sensitize Fire Bureau personnel so that recruits will have a full chance to become a part of the Bureau. Vern said that meetings are scheduled to discuss an awareness training program.

WORKSHOP

Staff reported on a written format, for a Commission Workshop, prepared by Walter Sakai. It includes two phases: (1) interviewing people from the community and preparing a statement of the nature and content of these interviews which would be presented to the Commission; (2) meeting on a Saturday afternoon first in small groups to discuss the reports from the interviews and then reporting recommendations to the full Commission for development into goals and priorities. Staff mentioned that since Mr. Sakai's report was written an ad hoc committee has been interviewing people from the community and that this might take care of the first phase interviews. Chairman reminded Commission that it would be well to wait until we have our new director.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dr. Lewis presented two lists of nominees to fill vacancies on the Commission. Chairman asked if a member would like to move for the adoption of names. Thelma Wilson moved and Dr. Lewis seconded the motion. Chairman opened the floor for further nominations. Lee Brown asked if there were any Chicanos or Indians, indicating that he felt the Commission should more adequately reflect the community. Dr. Lewis agreed and added that we should have input from people who receive our services.

Rose Marie Scott suggested that we need to clarify the Commission's direction and nominate accordingly. Marlene Bayless suggested that we need to take steps toward more fully bringing the Commission into regular touch with the community. Chairman suggested that we accept the county list and refer back to committee the city list. Lee Brown suggested that everything go back to committee. Jim Sitzman suggested that since we will have other vacancies in January we ought ask the committee to set up guidelines for drafting lists of nominees. Chairman suggested that the Commission should give the committee some direction as to what we want. Rose Marie Scott suggested that the committee work on alternate lists of three for both vacancies. The Commission can then make choices. Chairman asked that the report of the nominating committee be tabled. It was moved, seconded and passed.

OMBUDSMAN

Jim Sitzman reported the progress of research on the ombudsman. The researchers would like to know when the Commission would like the study completed. It was agreed that we should try to set December 15th as the date for discussion of the study.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p. m.