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10 **HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**
11 **Thursday, February 10, 2011**
12 Council Conference Room
13 Palo Alto Civic Center
14 250 Hamilton Avenue
15 7:00 PM
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20 **ROLL CALL: Commissioners Present:** Bacchetti, Bernardo, Chen, Ezran, O’Nan, Savage, Verma
21 **Staff:** Minka van der Zwaag, Amy Johnson
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24 **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**
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26 Mr. Jay West, a resident of The Barker Hotel, serving low-income, explained that he is concerned about
27 excessive noise coming from a nearby night club. He said that he as been complaining for over a year
28 and even though CPA has a noise ordinance, his complaints have gone unaddressed or he gets
29 conflicting information from PAPD, because they will tell him no one else complains. The noise volume
30 increases as the hour gets later. He asked the HRC to facilitate open dialog regarding the issue, and to
31 get a clearer understanding of PAPD’s role in enforcing noise restrictions.
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33 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
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35 None
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38 **AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, and DELETIONS:**
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40 None
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42 **BUSINESS**
43

44 **1. PRESENTATION REGARDING DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS AND YOUTH WELL**
45 **BEING IN PALO ALTO BY ADAM HOWARD, CITY OF PALO ALTO YOUTH**
46 **SERVICES MANAGER**
47

48 Mr. Adam Howard, Youth Services Manager gave a power point presentation to the HRC. He spoke
49 about the 41 developmental assets and explained that they are the experiences, values, relationships

50 and opportunities and skills that all youth and teens need to truly thrive. He explained there is a link
51 between increased asset levels and positive, healthy attitudes and behaviors. Youth with 0-10 assets
52 are about 57% likely to help others, while those with 31-40 assets are 92% likely. He explained that
53 the assets were established in the 1990s by the Search Institute, which is a non-profit, education and
54 research organization based in Minneapolis, whose mission is to promote healthy children, youth,
55 and communities. Project Cornerstone, a Santa Clara County collaborative, has been working on the
56 41 developmental assets with schools and other organizations. It added the 41st asset which is
57 “positive cultural identity” to the framework that is used locally. He spoke about the term
58 “developmental assets” and explained that it was chosen intentionally because it refers to the
59 emotional bank children need to succeed and thrive. He discussed the efforts of Project Safety Net,
60 Youth Collaborative, and PAUSD to implement the 41 developmental assets as well as the Project
61 Safety Net Community Task Force and its mission which is: To develop and implement an effective,
62 comprehensive, community-based mental health plan for overall youth well-being in Palo Alto. He
63 spoke about the national research done by the Search Institute demonstrating that as young people
64 experience more assets they are significantly less likely to be involved in high risk behavior. For
65 example: those who had 0-10 assets in their life, about 50% had engaged in high risk behaviors,
66 while those with 31-40 assets, about only 1% engaged in high risk behaviors. He concluded his
67 presentation and commented that 4,075 students from Palo Alto in grades 5, 7, and 9-12 were
68 surveyed regarding the 41 developmental assets, with the results being available soon.

69 70 71 **2. DISCUSSION ON WAYS TO HONOR COMPETITION AND GIVE RECOGNITION** 72 **FOR YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS**

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74 Commissioner Ezran addressed the commissioners and said that he would like to see an organized
75 event recognizing youth achievements in areas other than sports, for example, the finalists from the
76 Intel Science Competition. But he had questions about how to organize students and volunteers. He
77 asked the other commissioners for ideas.

78
79 The commissioners discussed ideas like: recognition at a City Council meeting, or giving them a key
80 to the city, with their picture in the paper, partnering with PAUSD to honor kids who are first to
81 graduate high school in their family, acknowledging volunteering, or recognizing exemplary work
82 with peers.

83
84 It was discussed that Commissioner Chen would bring it up at a Youth Council meeting. Everyone
85 will discuss with their council buddies and that PAUSD should be asked about this, since we don't
86 know what goes on at the schools, so there is not a duplication of efforts.

87
88 Mr. Howard noted as an example the Community Star Award that is given by the Community
89 Services Department at a City Council meeting. Also, he had put on a recognition dinner for the
90 youth leaders that he works with and has wanted to expand that to a bigger event but this has been
91 difficult due to budget constraints. He agreed that these activities should be done more often, and
92 that recognizing youth for their achievements should not be overlooked. He agreed to discuss it
93 further, look for resources, and have an option for something low cost but effective. He agreed to
94 have youth council get involved.

95 96 97 **3. 2010-2011 HSRAP UPDATE**

98 Ms. van der Zwaag explained that the spreadsheet provided was created by one of her staff, Debbie

99 Park, Management Assistant, which will be used as a starting point and she asked for input on what
100 kinds of information would be requested at a future meeting. There were a few comments about
101 continuing to see quantitative measures on future reports, staff is following up on agencies who have not
102 reported yet, and that the report only shows a small part of what the agencies actually do.

103

104 **4. RECOMMENDATION TO THE MAYOR FOR APPOINTMENT OF MS. BARBARA**
105 **MOSS KELLER TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SANTA CLARA**
106 **COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING**

107

108 Commissioner Bacchetti reported that he and Commissioner Verma interviewed Ms. Barbara Moss
109 Keller. Her recommendations were excellent and that he believed she would be an outstanding
110 individual to recommend to the Mayor for this appointment..

111

112 Commissioner Bacchetti asked for a motion. Commissioner O’Nan asked about her experience in elder
113 services. Both Commissioners Bacchetti and Verma agreed she was well versed in the issues and
114 understood the changing demographics of the city.

115

116 **COMMISSIONER VERMA MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND MS. BARBARA MOSS**
117 **KELLER TO MAYOR ESPINOZA AS A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF**
118 **THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER**
119 **EZRAN, AYES: UNANIMOUS.**

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121 **5. REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON PRIORITIES**

122 The commissioners discussed that they are on track with their priorities.

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124 **6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

125 None

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127 **7. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS:**

128 **A. Commissioner Reports:**

129 Commissioner O’Nan reported that she is continuing to work on intergenerational projects. She had an
130 interview with Director of Adult Services at the new Jewish Community Center and was impressed by
131 how they designed the new center to accommodate all different generations with intentionality.

132

133 Commissioner Verma reported that she met with Amy Drolette, Coordinator of PAUSD Student
134 Services. The results of the survey will be out by the end of next month and she will meet with her
135 again.

136

137 Commissioner Savage reported that she attended the Citizen’s Advisory Group and she and
138 Commissioner Verma will meet with Police Chief.

139

140 Commissioner Bernardo reported that she is reviewing HSRAP applications.

141

142 Commissioner Chen reported that she attended Youth Council meeting, and that they are planning an
143 event for high school kids called: “Ignite” and a future forum.

144

145 Commissioner O’Nan reported that she attended the Palo Alto Mediation Program meeting. They are a
146 supportive group of people, discussing challenges. They will be having a joint training with the city.

147

148 Commissioner Bacchetti reported that he attended Camp Everytown. He announced that the Kiwanis
149 Club will be hosting a lunch on March 3rd and will have participants speak about their experience of the
150 camp. A special invitation was extended to the HRC to attend the luncheon. Commissioners were
151 asked to respond to him if they can attend. He also reported on the recent PAPD community meeting
152 that was held at Cubberley; approximately 150 residents and about 10 officers attended. It was a great
153 event. He also reported that he met with Councilmember Gail Price who could not be here tonight but
154 will be here next month.

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157 **B. Council Buddy Reports:**

158 Commissioner Bacchetti reported that he met with his council buddy, Mayor Sid Espinoza, and they
159 discussed what the HRC is doing.

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162 **C. Council Liaison Report:**

163 None

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165 **D. Staff Liaison Report:**

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167 Ms. van der Zwaag reported that she is reading HSRAP applications.

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170 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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172 Ms. Amy Johnson announced that Past Commissioner Shauna Mora will be receiving a resolution
173 recognizing her work on the HRC at the February 14, 2011 Council Meeting.

174

175 **CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

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177 Review of CDBG funding recommendations on March 4, 2011.

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179 Review of HSRAP funding recommendations on March 16, 2011

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182 **ADJOURNMENT**

183 The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.