



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**

Wednesday, July 2, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall
Hillside Conference Room
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

- 1. Roll Call – Commissioners Present: Aga, Durham, and Quinto. Commissioners Absent: Edwards, Glueck, Parker.**
- 2. Minutes**

Moved and seconded (Durham/Aga) to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2014 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Oral Communications from the Public:** None.
- 4. Staff, Council Liaison and Commission Announcements and Reports:** Council Liaison Jan Bridges reported on actions taken by the City Council including the annual budget process and the public hearing for the site at 1715 Elm Street. Karen Pinkos introduced herself as the new staff liaison.
- 5. Old Business**
 1. Calendar Schedule for 2014: Discuss and determine new projects/ideas to consider as well as monthly themes for 2014: This item is tabled to be discussed at a future meeting.
 2. Brochure: Members discussed updating the HRC Brochure for display at the July 4 Festival. Karen will prepare edits and have the brochures at the City's booth.
- 6. New Business**
 1. Portola Middle School Proposed Name Change: Discussion and possible action regarding the proposal by WCCUSD to change the name of the middle school to honor Fred Korematsu: Charles Ramsey, WCCUSD Board of Education President, spoke to the Commission regarding the proposed name change. He described the process that the District has taken. He discussed the reasons he felt it was important to consider changing the name, particularly the ability to have students recognize and understand the internment of Japanese American citizens during World War II, and the issues around civil liberties, due process, racial profiling, and reaction to cultural groups during times of war. Fred Korematsu is an important figure in American civil rights history as recognized by the state and federal governments, and he feels it would be appropriate to consider representing the District's and El Cerrito's large Asian population. The committee appointed by the Board to study this issue and discuss it with the public voted unanimously to recommend the change to the Board, and the full Board will consider this item on Wednesday, July 9.

Michelle Jackson commented on the issue and process, and noted that the name will reflect the place and time in history it represents. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Ramsey and considered his comments. Commissioners did not take any further action on this item.
 2. September/October Events: Discussion and possible action on events in September and October 2014:

Tabled to be discussed at next meeting..

- 7. Items for Next Meeting:** Discussion of a possible film event, “Designing Healthy Communities”; consider a future agenda item to foster the relationship with ECHS and consider reviving the student seat on the commission.
- 8. Adjournment: 8:15 p.m.**

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION

To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille or MP3 file, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, please call Karen Pinkos, Staff Liaison at (510) 215-4302 (voice) at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability.

10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530

Tel: (510) 215-4302

Email: kpinkos@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us