#### **MINUTES**

# REGIONAL HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING EXCHANGE Tumbleweed Recreation Center 745 E Germann Road, Chandler AZ 85248

# Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

# **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

Commission Chair Tyler Conaway called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

## **Commissioners & Staff Present:**

**City of Chandler**: Tyler Conaway, Shannon Begay, John Anguiano, Jason Sieczkowski, Mayor Kevin Hartke, Erica Maxwell, Joseph Curbelo, Jacob Bello, Tadd Wille, Betty Ramirez, Shahzad Amjad, Niki Tapia, Adrianna Erickson, CC Cantabrana

**City of Mesa**: Nina Allred, William Campos, Jared Smith, Rochelle Johns, Andrea Alicoate, Angela Siebrecht, Margaret Duarte, Brett Caldwell, Ron Williams

City of Scottsdale: Emily Hinchman, Marty Day, Janice Shimokubo, Hannellie Mendoza, Jackie Johnson

Town of Gilbert: Javier Rodriguez, Sean Warren, Melanie Dykstra, Suzanne Lunt,

**City of Tempe:** Melissa Farling, Rabbanni FurQaan, Hugo Tapia, Candyce Lindsay, Jana Lynn Granillo, Kate Vawter

**City of Phoenix:** Shanna Archie, Michael Mazzocco, Sariah Flores, Miriam Weisman, Henry Lam, Terri Jackson, Janice Varnado,

Public present: Rachna Nath, Debbie Ohaler, Jane Poston, Hayden Larkin

# SCHEDULED/UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES/CALL TO PUBLIC

None

#### **DISCUSSION**

- 1. Welcome Niki Tapia, DEI Program Manager & Mayor Kevin Hartke, City of Chandler
- 2. Guest Introductions City of Tempe, Mesa, Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Chandler Commissioners During this time, Commissioners made mentioned what they enjoy most about their respective cities. Responses included the small-town feel, community engagement, amenities and nightlife, and the vast diversity of the community.
- 3. Panel Discussion with Rachna Nath Rachna Nath is one of TIME's Innovative Teachers of 2022. Nath works with students to invent solutions to real-world problems and describes herself as "the person I was looking for when I was in my high school". Through her teachings, students learn to brainstorm ideas, conduct research, and apply for grants to make their ideas come to life. Nath believes that it's important to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all students by applications such as providing students

clear guidance on what it takes to succeed, building partnerships with parents and the community, embracing immigrant students and their culture, and challenging the normalization of failure.

# 4. Fall Activity Updates – All Cities

Town of Gilbert:

- Viva! A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage, September 30 –
   Viva! will feature authentic Latin American cuisine, Latinx-owned businesses, and cultural entertainment.
- Veterans Day Celebration, November 10 –
   Words of tribute by special guest speakers, musical performances, and military displays.
- Hanukkah Celebration, December 18
  Lighting of the Menorah at Water Tower Plaza

# City of Mesa:

• Dia de los Muertos Festival, October 22 & 23

Annual celebration of Latin American art and culture related to the Day of the Dead holiday. There will be music, art, and a community alter.

# City of Phoenix:

- Phoenix Pride Festival and Parade, October 15 & 16
- AZ Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Awards, January 13, 2023

# City of Tempe:

- Salary Negotiation Workshop (Virtual), September 21
- Tempe Tadeada, October 2
- MLK Diversity, Awards Breakfast, January 9, 2023

# City of Chandler:

- Chandler Contigo, A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage, September 15 October 15
- Diwali Festival of Lights, October 22
- Chandler Asian Festival, October 29 & 30

# 5. January 2023 Unity Walk

The City of Tempe will host the Regional Unity Walk at Tempe Beach Park on Saturday, January 21, 4 – 7pm. The walk will begin at 6pm. All cities are invited to participate.

6. Future Regional Human Relations Commission Hosts
The City of Phoenix will host the next regional meeting. More details will be provided soon.

### **AJOURN**

Tyler Conaway moved to adjourn the Regional Human Relation Commission Exchange meeting. Jacob Bello seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Dated:  $\sqrt{Q}/\sqrt{2}$ 

Commission Chair Tyler Conaway

CC Cantabrana, Recording Secretary