



# Western Inland Empire Coalition Against Hate

Serving the Western Riverside and San Bernardino Counties

## Board & Planning Committee Meeting Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Riverside City Hall, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference room

**Minutes of meeting** – the meeting which had a quorum of Board members began at 5:50 PM.

**Members present** – Mike Smith Chair, Robert Gill, Vice-Chair, Mike Kinsman, Secretary, David St. Pierre, Treasurer, Celeste Shively, and John Higley. Riverside Police Officer Greg Matthews, creator of the WEICAH website, was a guest. Greg Matthews was present to photograph Board members for the website.

**Minutes** – The minutes of the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and corrections were made. Bob Gill moved to accept the minutes as corrected and David seconded the motion and the membership unanimously moved to accept the minutes as corrected.

**Chairperson's report** – Mike Smith will contact AT&T to arrange that the toll-free number is forwarded to the cellular phone to be purchased. Mike Smith thanked Greg Matthews for work in creating and updating the WIECAH website, [wiecah@wiecah.org](mailto:wiecah@wiecah.org).

**Treasurer's report** – David St. Pierre reported that the WIECAH checking account had an ending balance, as of the December statement of \$ 6,303.77, with the annual membership dues that were accepted in November. David St. Pierre is still receiving the monthly checking account statements at his residence. Mike Smith distributed copies of the Treasurer's report for November 2006 he had prepared. The Board accepted the format. Greg Matthews handed David St. Pierre a donation check for \$500.

**Correspondence** – Mike Kinsman reported that he received a follow-up fax from Claudia Einertson responding to the letter of December 29<sup>th</sup>. Copies of the fax were distributed and the content of the fax was discussed. Celeste Shively will check on the notification the DA's Victim Support Unit. Mike Kinsman will contact Chani Beeman and advised that Mrs. Einertson still hasn't heard from the Riverside Human Relations Commission. Mike Kinsman will notify Mrs. Einertson of the Board's discussion. Mike Kinsman advised the WIECAH, [wiecah@wiecah.org](mailto:wiecah@wiecah.org), website is still functional but we still haven't received any inquiries from the community. We will need to advertise the website on our new brochures and at future events.

## Old Business

- **First Annual Recognition Awards Dinner** - Chani's proposal was distributed and discussed. WIECAH's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Recognition dinner is scheduled for late May or early June at the Marriot Hotel. Mike Smith, Celeste and David volunteered to assist Chani. David's new company DSP Consulting is coordinating the services at the event. Money has been budgeted for the ceremony. Mike Kinsman's fax number, 951-274-0232, will be used to forward nomination recommendations. John Higley mentioned that California Baptist University has set aside a section of the library dedicated to remembering the Holocaust is an example of worthy recognition. Bob Gill mentioned that the Board should probably visit the site. Mike Kinsman moved to accept Chani's proposal and Celeste seconded the motion which was accepted unanimously by the membership.
- **Quarterly Community Forum** - Bob Gill's draft proposal for the Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Community Forum was distributed and discussed. The event, called "Community expectations, perceptions and the Criminal Justice reality" should have a panel discussion representing local law enforcement and the District Attorney discussing how and why hate crimes are investigated and prosecuted with David presenting WIECAH and community's success with the Jeffrey Owens case. It will be held at the Main Riverside Library. Since the Riverside DA apparently doesn't have a deputy DA dedicated to prosecution of Hate Crimes Mike Kinsman suggested that DDA Mike Martinez be contacted. Mike Smith advised he would speak to him.
- **Education/outreach to the Muslim Community** -Bob Gill advised that Omar Zaki a member of the City of Riverside Human Relations Commission and a member of the Mosque in Riverside, will be working on a Mosque effort to reach out to other faith groups. Bob directed him to the Coalition for Common Ground and offered to assist him. Bob will advise WIECAH on Omar Zaki's progress.
- **Written roles/responsibilities of Board members** – Bob Gill and Mike Smith distributed copies of the roles, duties and responsibilities of the positions of Chair and Vice-chair. The Board agreed to adopt the presented descriptions into the Bylaws. Only Treasurer's position needs a brief draft of his duties for future discussion and submission into the Bylaws.

## New Business

- The Board was reminded to invite either a religious or community member to the next WIECAH meeting, February 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Subcommittee updates

- Communications/outreach – Mike Kinsman – nothing to report
- Youth resources - nothing to report
- Education awareness - nothing to report

**Roundtable discussion/ presentations**

- Bob Gill shared with the Board that the Coalition for Common Ground has established T-Centers with computers and staff to provide technology training, homework assistance/tutoring, anger management sessions, conflict management within the family, teen pregnancy discussions, Legal Ease Workshop, and a Christmas Celebration for at-risk youth. The centers are located in City of Riverside parks (currently Boardwell Park, Chavez Center, Lincoln Park, and Nichols Park) and are administered by Parks and Recreation; T-Centers will probably be established in other Riverside parks in the future. The Coalition for Common Ground also has computers it plans to establish in programs of faith organizations; the first of these will be located in the school at the Islamic Center (Mosque) in Riverside.

**Action Items** – see underlined minutes

**Adjournment** – the next meeting will be held on Monday February 12th at 5:45 PM at the Riverside City Hall, 6<sup>th</sup> floor conference room.