

Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee
Historical Monuments Ad Hoc Subcommittee
Report
February 22, 2022

Ad hoc Subcommittee Members: Carlos Valverde, Anissa Di Vincente, Haifaa Al-Moammar, Rebecca Rona

The ad hoc subcommittee last met on 2/4/22.

As the EHRAC is tasked with recommending “programs, policies and activities designed to promote the full acceptance of all people in all aspects of community life” and “recommend programs, policies and activities designed to reduce discrimination, increase cultural competency, improve intergroup relations, and promote civil and human rights for all,” the ad hoc subcommittee has decided to pursue a series of Diversity Awareness Projects that highlight a cultural, historical or informational aspect of Culver City.

The Committee discussed the various projects suggested from past meetings and decided to focus on one. The Committee would like to create a series of light post signs or stations that feature a cultural, historical or informational aspect that celebrates or informs residents about the rich cultural diversity of Culver City. These light post signs or stations would include a description of the cultural or informational feature and include a QR that links to a newly created webpage that may feature additional, more in-depth information about the sign post. These light posts or stations would become opportunities for residents, especially children, to learn gain a greater understanding and appreciation for cultural diversity of the City.

The first light post sign or station would feature a description of the location and history of the Kunisawa farm where Culver City High School currently stand.

Draft Excerpt: “On June 1st, 1942, the U.S. government incarcerated anyone of Japanese ancestry which included Henry Kunisawa, his wife, and six children, in a Japanese internment camp called Manzanar. His family lost their freedom and all of their possessions. They were finally released on January 11th 1945. Henry Kunisawa and his family returned to Culver City where they lived at 4475 Elenda Street until his death on February 19th, 1950. His farm was replaced with a new school which opened its doors in the fall of 1951, called CULVER CITY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL” (Green Thumbs Club, CCHS). Further detailed information will be researched and possible photographs or renditions will be explored.

Members of the committee are now researching the various designs, exploring the creation of a new website to contain the QR code information and the necessary steps needed to implement this activity.

The ad hoc subcommittee will continue to meet and will report on further developments at future ERAC meetings.

In addition, as the Historical Monuments ad hoc subcommittee has refined its approach, we propose to change the name of the this ad hoc subcommittee to the Diversity Awareness Projects Ad Hoc Subcommittee.