

# Council approves human rights commission

Members vote unanimously to approve service committee

By Brian Bloch  
Emerald Reporter

The Eugene City Council adopted an ordinance Monday night calling for the creation of a human rights commission responsible for conducting a variety of community outreach programs and advising elected officials on human rights issues.

The council voted unanimously to create a 15-member Human Rights Commission, to be made up of 14 community members and Eugene Mayor Jeff Miller or a city councilor.

The decision comes in response to wide-spread community support and a report recently submitted to the council by the Human Rights Task Force.

The task force was set up in March 1989 to reexamine the city's existing Human Rights Program and develop options to restructure and improve that program.

Having completed its examination of the program, the task force report proposed the creation of a new human rights commission that would be subdivided into ten-member committees on discrimination, harassment, accessibility, and community education and outreach.

Each sub-committee would contain five members of the Human Rights Commission and five others from the community.

In addition, standing committees to address the specific rights of women, the elderly,

gays and lesbians, disabled citizens and children would also be implemented under the proposal.

Former task force members who testified to the council said the new program called for in their report would create stronger community outreach and education on human rights issues and greater accessibility to the program.

The ordinance received strong support and praise from the entire council.

"I urge all the councilors to get behind this ordinance and give it a chance to work," said councilor Bobby Green.

Brian Knowles, a disabled citizen who testified against the ordinance, said he believed it did not contain enough specific information on the staffing and



Jeff Miller



Bobby Green

appointment requirements of the commission.

However, the council maintained that specific details of the program and its implementation could be discussed at a later date.

"We're not done yet," Miller said. "But we believe we're

taking a step in the right direction."

Outreach and recruitment of community members for the new commission will begin immediately so that nominations can be received by mid-December and the commission selected in early January 1991.

## Lonsdale break-in routine, without political motives

BEND (AP) — Deschutes County sheriff's investigators said Monday that last week's break-in at Senate candidate Harry Lonsdale's rural home was a routine residential burglary and was not politically motivated.

Detectives arrested two men Saturday evening and recovered all the property stolen from Lonsdale's home, Sgt. Greg Brown said.

Billy Sunday Graham Hemphill, 26, and Clinton Leo King, 30, remained jailed Monday on charges of first-degree burglary, first-degree theft and conspiracy to commit burglary. Bail was set at \$62,500 each.

The burglary was discovered Wednesday morning by Lonsdale's secretary, who found the candidate's office ransacked and numerous items missing. Police said it appeared campaign files had been scattered around the room, and a computer containing campaign and contributor information was stolen along with a stereo, typewriter, telephone and videocassette recorder.

According to a police report, the secretary said she thought files might have been copied because the paper tray in an office copying machine appeared to have been almost emptied.

The Lonsdale campaign had alleged the burglary was politically motivated and called for district attorneys in Marion, Deschutes and Multnomah counties to look into it.

Brown said it has been determined that no campaign or personal materials were copied and it appeared the computer system had not been tampered with.

Deschutes County District Attorney Mike Dugan said he will not allege a political motive when the case goes to court. Dugan said he believes the break-in was a crime of opportunity, noting that Lonsdale was known to be out of town and that the house was dark and in an isolated area.

The home is six miles northwest of Bend in a Tumalo-area subdivision.

Bill Calder, spokesman for Sen. Mark Hatfield, Lonsdale's opponent, said after Monday's news conference that he was incensed at the Democratic candidate's assumption that there was a political connection.

"Mr. Lonsdale took what law enforcement authorities termed a routine residential burglary and cleverly manufactured a political story out of it," Calder said.

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