



Spokane Human Rights Commission

The Mar 2nd, 2022 meeting will provide for in person attendance. The meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers—Lower Level of City Hall, 808 Spokane Falls Blvd. Members of the public, Commission members, City staff, and presenters will still have the option to participate remotely via Teams by clicking the “Meeting Link” on this page or by calling the number provided.

5:30 PM-7:00 PM

[Meeting Link](#)

+1-323-618-1887

Access code: 577 455 431#

TIMES GIVEN ARE AN ESTIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Land Acknowledgment & Public Comment Period:

5:30 - 5:35 Land Acknowledgement
Public Comment (3 minutes each). Citizens are invited to address the Commission.

Commission Briefing Session:

5:35 - 5:40 A. Roll Call & Approval of Consent Agenda Chair Peace

Standing Update(s):

5:40-6:05	"In Spokane We All Belong"	Council President Beggs
6:05-6:10	First Read: Office of Civil Rights Resolution	
6:10-6:35	Trent Shelter and Community	Salvation Army
6:35-6:45	Acknowledging President Jimmy Carter: Civil Rights Champion	
6:45-7:00	Committee Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive • Outreach • Civic Impact 	

	Adjournment	
	1) Next Human Rights Commission meeting is scheduled for April 6th, at 5:30pm (PST)	

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) INFORMATION: The City of Spokane is committed to providing equal access to its facilities, programs and services for persons with disabilities. The Spokane City Council Chamber in the lower level of Spokane City Hall, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., is wheelchair accessible and also is equipped with an infrared assistive listening system for persons with hearing loss. Headsets may be checked out (upon presentation of picture I.D.) at the City Cable 5 Production Booth located on the First Floor of the Municipal Building, directly above the Chase Gallery or through the meeting organizer. Individuals requesting reasonable accommodations or further information may call, write, or email Human Resources at 509.625.6363, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA, 99201; or msteinolfson@spokanecity.org. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact Human Resources through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1. Please contact us forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting date.



Chair's Report

March 1, 2023

Dear Commissioners,

Below is a summary of activities I participated in as Chair of the SHRC, as well as additional points of interest:

❖ **Commission Updates**

- The SHRC Chair wrote an Op-Ed in the Spokesman-Review newspaper published on 2/1/23, [on the topic of repealing the Washington State Jaywalking Laws with Senate Bill 5383](#).
- The City Administrator & the Mayor requested a meeting with the SHRC Chair, which that meeting was held on 2/17/23 at City Hall.
- Held an SHRC Executive Committee Meeting on 2/17/23.
- Held an SHRC Retreat at Dave's Pizza with several Commissioners in attendance on 2/18/23.
- Continued distributing the SHRC Homeless Resource Guide pamphlets to service providers, shelters, and as well as at other the events.
- Regularly communicated with SHRC Executive Committee last month about upcoming agenda items or other Commission issues.

❖ **OCREI**

- Held a SHRC Special-Meeting on the 9th, which was a ["Community-Forum: Envisioning how this new OCREI will work in our community"](#).
- The SHRC Chair attended a private meeting on 2/17/23 with the City Administrator & the Mayor who had requested the meeting, on the topic the OCREI Director Search-Process.

- The Spokesman-Review newspaper interviewed the SHRC Chair on the topics surrounding the OCREI Director Search-Process, which [the story ran in the paper on 2/21/23](#).
- Communicated to the OCREI Taskforce and to the SHRC Executive Committee a update about the SHRC Chair's meeting with the City Administration.

❖ **Social Media (Facebook)**

- Created the March 2, 2023 meeting event.
- Posted the OCREI Director job posting/description.
- Posted a [news story from the Spokesman-Review](#) about OCREI Director Search-Process.
- Reposted a post from the Spokane NAACP about the upcoming 2/28/23 KREM 2 news-special recognizing the life of the honorable, Sandy Williams, a Spokane Civil-Rights-Champion.
- Posted the [2/28/23 KREM 2 news-special recognizing the life of the honorable, Sandy Williams, a Spokane Civil-Rights-Champion](#).

SPECIAL MEETING 02/09/2023

09 FEBRUARY 2023 / 5:30 PM / CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PUBLIC COMMENT

In-person: Natasha Hill

Online: - Discussed the importance of Black History Month & appreciation for Chair Peace's op-ed.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Read by: Chair Peace

ROLL CALL

Present (in-person): Anwar Peace, Lance Kissler, Jac Archer, Brennan Schreibman, Alex Knox, Hayley Harrison, Livia Koh

Absent: Olivia Arballo-Saenz, Maria Hernandez-Peck

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION: OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

Chair Peace: Timeline of SHRC involvement with OCREI.

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION: PUBLIC COMMENT

In-person: Justice Forral, Natasha Hill, Pui-Yan Lam, Katy Sheehan, Dean Lynch

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION: OUTCOME

Statements made by Commissioners & community members echoed frustrations with city administration's lack of transparency & unusual delayment in the hiring process for the OCREI Director position.

Commission to draft a Resolution to be presented at the next monthly meeting.

Chair Peace to meet with Mayor Nadine Woodward & City Administrator, Johnnie Perkins, on February 17, 2023.

Chair Peace adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETING 02/02/2023

02 FEBRUARY 2023 / 5:30 PM / CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Read by: Chair Peace

PUBLIC COMMENT

In-person: No public comment

Online: Ivan Urnovitz - Discussed the importance of Black History Month & appreciation for Chair Peace's op-ed.

ROLL CALL

Present (in-person): Anwar Peace, Lance Kissler, Brennan Schreibman, Olivia Arballo-Saenz, Maria Hernandez-Peck, Hayley Harrison, Karen Stratton

Present (online): Jac Archer, Livia Koh (joined later)

Absent: Alex Knox

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to remove minutes for editing & approve consent agenda: Commissioner Kissler

Seconded: Vice-Chair Schreibman

Final outcome: Motion carried by unanimous decision.

AMENDING MINUTES FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Edits required: Two names misspelled, quotation missing, missing the word "of".

Motion to approve the minutes with the changes discussed: Commissioner Harrison

Seconded: Commissioner Kissler

Final outcome: Motion carried by unanimous decision

GUEST: KURTIS ROBINSON, NAACP (SPOKANE BRANCH PRESIDENT)

Kurtis talked with us about the significance of the black heroes and legends in our own community & the responsibility each of us has.

Notes:

- We can discuss and admire people like MLK, but are we noticing what's going on right next to us?
- Do you live being an anti-racist? Or is not being racist good enough? Because just not being racist is being complicit in the system of white supremacy.
- "You can't fix what you won't face" - something he heard from David Condon (former Spokane mayor)
- Responsibility - break it down - response ability - what's your ability to respond?
- "It's a conversation not condemnation, it's an invitation for liberation."

Guest Contact information:

Website: <https://naacpspokane.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/spokane.naacp/>

GUEST PRESENTATION: TERRENCE NELSON, REVIVE COUNSELING

Terrence discussed his own personal journey, Revive's founding in 2015, and the work Revive is doing now.

Notes:

Revive Family of Organizations has 3 parts:

- Revive Center for Returning Citizens - nonprofit, deals with a lot of education services, located in Resource Center
 - Reentry Core Competency & Race Re-Education
- Revive Counseling
 - includes foundational support such as housing and employment services
 - Peer support
- Revive Re-entry - Transitional housing - 34 men's beds across 4 houses, 31 women's beds across 4 houses
 - Safe place with supportive services on-site
- Contracted to provide services at Camp Hope & the Trent Shelter
- Low barrier
- Compassionate approach
- Works with others in the community in creative ways
- "It's not a program, it's a process"
- Ask: Get out there and be a part of what's happening. We can't do that without you. (Connections to landlord, employments, always can use more resources & there's no cookie-cutter approach)

Guest Contact information:

Website: <https://rc4rc.org/>

Email: info@rc4rc.org

UPDATE: DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

Chair Peace gave an update: The Mayor offered the position to one candidate. Candidate subsequently rescinded their application. Now we're back at square one.

DISCUSSION: 2023 WORK PLAN

Homelessness/Housing
Office of Civil Rights, Equity, & Inclusion
Public Safety & Police Reform
Accessibility

UPDATE: SHRC COMMISSIONER RETREAT

Date: February 18, 2023 decided for group retreat

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Executive Committee - Chair Peace: Met twice, discussed workplan and retreat

Outreach Committee - Commissioner Arballo-Saenz: Fig Tree advertisement price will go up, TBD. Discussed Coffee with a Commissioner. Working on a Community Events Calendar. Gonzaga International Conference on Hate Studies - potentially co-host; will discuss sponsoring after we have our 2023 budget information.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BEATING OF TYRIE NICHOLS

Chair Peace made a statement regarding the recent beating that resulted in the death of Tyrie Nichols.

Chair Peace adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.



CITY OF SPOKANE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

RESOLUTION

A resolution regarding the process of hiring the Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Equity, and Inclusion & the Commission’s commitment to the public format of the community forum

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane Human Rights Commission (the “Commission”) is dedicated to addressing issues related to human rights and unjust discrimination and the implementation of programs consistent with the needs of all residents of the City of Spokane; and

WHEREAS, the Commission established the Office of Civil Rights Task Force in December 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Commission provided research, analysis, and a formal recommendation to City Leadership for the establishment of a city-funded Office of Civil Rights, Equity & Inclusion (“OCREI”) consisting of one Director position and five full-time staff positions in November 2021; and

WHEREAS, City Leadership approved to establish a city-funded Office of Civil Rights, Equity, & Inclusion consisting of one director position and two full-time staff positions; and

WHEREAS, the Commission provided City Administration with guidance and support throughout the recruiting and selection process; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has advocated for the need to host a community forum, as expressed by community stakeholders, prior to extending a formal offer to any Director candidate(s); and

WHEREAS, City Administration stated that on January 27th, the Mayor would select two candidates as finalists, at which time the possibility of the Community Forum would be discussed with the Chair; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor selected and offered the position to one candidate on January 27th who subsequently withdrew their application on January 31st, resulting in the position remaining vacant; and

WHEREAS, the entire hiring process for the Director position, beginning with the original job posting and recruitment of applicants was reinitiated on February 6th; and

WHEREAS, the Commission held a Special Meeting with the purpose of hearing from the community about individuals’ views and expectations as they relate to the future OCREI on February 9th, and

WHEREAS, the Chair met with the Mayor and City Administrator to discuss the hiring process and reiterate the need for robust community involvement, transparency, & expediency throughout said process, on February 17th, at which time the Chair shared the importance of holding a community forum for final candidates, as expressed by community members and individual Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Administrator offered to allow a second panel of community stakeholders as an alternative to hosting a public community forum; and

WHEREAS, the framework for the OCREI Director hiring process that the Mayor & City Administrator have agreed upon is as follows:

1. An “internal panel” comprised of members of the Mayor’s cabinet.
2. An “external-panel” comprised of SHRC Vice-Chair Schreibman, Kurtis Robinson, Pui-Yan Lam, & one additional Commissioner, yet to be determined.



**CITY OF SPOKANE
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

3. A second “external panel” comprised of four members of the SHRC OCR Taskforce, participating members are also yet to be determined.

WHEREAS, the Chair expressed to the Mayor and City Administrator that the Commission remains deeply committed to pursuing the community’s public format of the community forum; and

WHEREAS, the public community forum would allow members of the community to ask questions directly to the OCREI Director final candidates, providing an irreplicable opportunity for engagement & ensuring restored faith in the equity & transparency of this process;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, the City of Spokane Human Rights Commission will make every effort to facilitate the community forum in accordance with the wishes, as expressed, of community members, although the Commission acknowledges that the decision is solely the prerogative of the Mayor.

Adopted by the City of Spokane Human Rights Commission on March 2, 2023.

Anwar Peace
Chair, City of Spokane Human Rights Commission



Spokane Human Rights Commission
Civic Impact Committee

February 27th, 2023

Committee Members:

Lead – Alex Knox
Member – Hayley Harrison
Member – Jac Archer
Member – Maria Peck

Update from Committee Lead:

- Committee had scheduled meeting on February 26th, 2023, regarding topics of interest for members, as well as an update on Lead activities and feedback to proposals.
- Scheduled meeting with County Commissioner Waldref at end of March to discuss equity in regional public transportation system and priorities advancing human rights in Spokane.
- Scheduled meeting with Councilmember Zappone on priorities advancing human rights in Spokane.
- Scheduled meeting with Council President Beggs regarding Public Safety Reform Agenda
- Working on addition to SMC Title 18 – Concerning Rights of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness
- Council Resolution No. 2023-0018 – Support for Regional Consolidated Independent Authority on Homelessness
- Update on status for Monaghan Statue Removal