



Spokane Human Rights Commission

The Mar 7th, 2023 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-7:30 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):

5:40-5:50	Acknowledgment of Women's History Month: Spokane NAACP	Vice President Jamie Stacy
5:50-6:15	Catholic Charities	CEO Robert McCann
6:15-7:00	SHRC Interviews of Candidates	
7:00-7:30	Committee Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive • Outreach • Civic Impact 	

	Adjournment	
	1) Next Human Rights Commission meeting is scheduled for Apr 4th, 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, 2024

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 attended a private meeting on 2/5/24 with the Washington State Office of Independent Investigations (OII) and a few of Spokane's *"Impacted-Families" that have been touched by Police-Violence*. The OII was created in 2021 by the State Legislature to *conduct thorough, transparent, & unbiased investigations of cases that involve police use of deadly force*. And the OII has a "Civilian-Director" & includes "Civilian-Investigators" on its teams. The topic of the meeting on the 5th was to get an update about how the agency's Family-Liaisons positions will work in our community once they get started working soon, which we told the OII they needed to place the 1st Family-Liaisons in the state to Spokane due to the heavy need the area has for them. Plus, also a major topic of the meeting was the *rash of Spokane Officer-Involved-Shootings so far this year*. 2 of those shootings happened days before the meeting and 2 more happened shortly after the meeting, which *2 of those were incidents of Suicide-By-Cop*. Which there was 4 shootings in a 2-week period & this is more shootings than 2023 had in total, and now due to this fact Spokane is ranked the 2nd Deadliest Police-Force in the Nation according to Mapping Police Violence Database.
- The SHRC Chair worked with the City Clerk's Office, in order to complete the "Public-Records-Request" from a citizen to

the Commission about the Monaghan statue. This is the 2nd time a "Public-Records-Request" has been asked of the Commission about this matter in the past year.

- Councilmember Paul Dillon on 2/20/24 reached out to the Chair, in order to let the Chair know that Councilmember Lili Navarrete will be replacing Councilmember Dillon as the "City Council Liaison for SHRC going forward". On 1/22/24 Councilmember Navarrete was appointed to the vacant seat on the City Council, and because of this appointment they just now had to leave their position as a Commissioner on the Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman Commission (OPOC).
- On 2/20/24 the SHRC Chair attended the Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman Commission (OPOC) meeting, which their guest presenter was Council President Betsy Wilkerson. One of the agenda items of the meeting was the rash of Spokane Officer-Involved-Shootings so far this year, which the Chair testified about this issue and also another "Impacted-Family-Member" that have been touched by Police-Violence testified as well. Also discussed at the meeting was the OPOC eagerness to collaborate with the SHRC on matters pertaining to *Public-Safety & Police-Accountability issues*.
- The new President of the "Spokane NAACP" Lisa Gardner reached out to the Chair, in order to let the Chair know that they have another scheduling issue with giving a presentation to the Commission to *acknowledge & honor Women's History Month* at the March meeting. Instead, the Commission will receive that presentation from the NAACP 1st Vice President Jaime Stacy, and the Chair offered to reschedule Lisa Gardner for our June meeting to celebrate "Juneteenth".
- Held an SHRC Executive Committee Meeting on 2/24/24. This meeting was attended by the Commission's new City Council Liaison for SHRC, Councilmember Lili Navarrete and their Legislative Assistant, Andres Grageda, who they had attended the Commission's February meeting. During the

Executive Committee meeting we were able to ask the Councilmember about how the City Council plans on addressing [SHRC RESOLUTION 2023-03--A resolution concerning the human rights and basic dignity of individuals experiencing homelessness](#), which the Councilmember said they would quickly look into that and get back to us.

- Regularly communicated with the [Mayor's Office](#) last month about the *process of filling 2 vacancies on the Commission* and then the [Mayor's Office](#) then *quickly sent over to the Chair the applications that had been received by the Mayor*. The [SHRC Executive Committee](#) wishes to thank this [new Mayor's Office](#) for their efforts to *better collaborate* with [Commissions & Boards](#) on filling the vacancies that have happened during the last administration. On that note, the [Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman Commission \(OPOC\)](#) has *2 vacancies* that currently need to be filled, which [the OPOC posted about on their Facebook page on 2/21/24](#).
- Regularly communicated with the SHRC Executive Committee last month about upcoming agenda items or other Commission issues.

❖ **OCREI**

- Regularly communicated with the [OCREI Director Jerrall Haynes](#) last month, about upcoming agenda items or other Commission issues.

❖ **Social Media (Facebook)**

- Created the March 1, 2024 SHRC meeting event. As well as posting the Agenda in the comment post section.
- Re-posted a post from 2/1/23 from the SHRC, which was a [Acknowledging Black History Month from the City of Spokane Human Rights Commission](#).
- Re-posted a post from ["Spokane NAACP"](#), which the post was about [Trending Northwest Magazine](#) for *honoring* the [new NAACP President Lisa Gardner](#) with the ["Non-Profit Leaders to Watch Award"](#) at their Winter Awards Gala on 2/1/24.
- Posted a news story from the Inlander newspaper, which the story was about [Lisa Gardner moved home a few years ago](#)

— now she's leading the Spokane NAACP with plans to lift up Black and Brown communities in the Inland Northwest.

- Re-posted a post from the "Spokane NAACP", which the post was honoring the birthday of Civil Rights Leader Rosa Parks who was born on 2/4/1913 and past on 10/24/05 at the age of 92.
- Posted several times that the Commission was looking to fill *2 vacancies on the Commission*, with a link to the application process.
- Posted a news story from KHQ-TV, which was about Washington-based Black charities supporting the community.
- Re-posted a post from Council President Betsy Wilkerson about *celebrating Black History Month* in Spokane at the 2nd Annual Resources & Empowerment Event at the Central Library on 2/17/24.
- Re-posted a post from the "Spokane NAACP" on 2/12/24, in which the post was *honoring the fact that day in Black History marks the day NAACP was founded 115 years ago and celebrating Civil Rights advocacy for over a hundred years!*.
- Posted a news story from the Spokesman-Review newspaper, which was about Spokane Chinese Association's Lunar New Year celebration is Sunday (2/18/24): 'The whole thing is going to be splendid'.
- Posted about the link to the upcoming Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman Commission (OPOC) meeting on 2/20/24.
- Posted a link to the video of the Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman Commission (OPOC) meeting that was held on 2/20/24, which this meeting is on Vimeo.
- Posted a news story from KREM-TV, which was about Spokane's 1st & only Black Mayor James Everett Chase in 1981.
- Re-posted a post from the "Spokane NAACP" about the Seattle based Crosscut Magazine honoring the life & work of Spokane's late Civil Rights Leader Sandy Williams & The Black Lens.

SPOKANE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2024 Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers, City Hall Basement

Call to order by Chair Peace at 5:42 p.m.

Land Acknowledgment

Delivered by Commission Chair Peace.

Public Comment

Chair Peace opened the meeting for Public Comment:

Chambers: N/A

Virtual: Ivan Urnovitz provided public comment reflecting on Black History Month, the enduring legacy of the Civil Rights Movement, and the ordinance recently passed by City Council, ORD C36484, establishing a process for review of community concerns regarding institutional statements, names or monuments on property owned by the City of Spokane.

Roll Call

Attendees:

COMMISSIONERS: Anwar Peace, Brennan “Boone” Schreibman, Alex Knox, Maria Hernandez-Peck, Olivia Arballo-Saenz (v), Hayley Harrison.

OTHERS: Jerrall Haynes, OCREI Director; Paul Dillon, City Councilmember/SHRC Liaison (v); Andres Crageda, Legislative Assistant to City Councilmember Lili Navarrete.

Acknowledgment of Black History Month

By: Spokane NAACP Vice President Kurtis Robinson.

Spokane NAACP Presentation

By: Spokane NAACP Vice President Kurtis Robinson.

Committee Assignments

Discussion: Commissioner Harrison interested in Outreach, Commissioner Hernandez-Peck interested in continuing w/ Civic Impact.

Motion: Vice Chair Schreibman moved to appoint Comm. Harrison to Outreach Committee and Comm. Hernandez-Peck to Civil Impact. Seconded by Commissioner Knox.

Chair Peace called the question.

All in favor: Chair Peace, Vice Chair Schreibman, Commissioner Harrison,
Commissioner Knox, Commissioner Arballo-Saenz.

Any opposed: N/A

Motion carries

Committee Updates

Executive Committee: Director Haynes met with Mayor's Office re. level of historical support for SHRC and how Mayor's Office can better support SHRC's work going forward. Director Haynes also discussed passage of ORD C36484 (review of community concerns regarding institutional statements, names or monuments on property owned by the City) and potential changes.

Outreach Committee: Committee Lead Arballo-Saenz provided update re. adjustments to Coffee with a Commissioner – scheduling and title (renaming to “Coffee with a Human Rights Commissioner”).

Civic Impact Committee: Committee Lead Knox discussed two draft resolutions (Resolutions 2024-01 & 2024-02) concerning adding language to nondiscrimination ordinances re. actual or perceived sexual orientation/gender identity & public accommodations; upcoming meeting with Hotel Advisory Commission; update re. 2024 Work Plan and assigning; request by City Council for presentation & study session re. SHRC Resolution 2023-03 (concerning rights of City's unhoused residents).

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m. by Chair Peace.

By: Vice Chair Schreibman, o/b/o Secretary/Treasurer Koh