



Spokane Human Rights Commission

The Jun 6th, 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	Acknowledgement of Federal Holiday- JUNETEENTH	
5:50-6:15	Black Lens News Paper	Natasha Hill, Editor
6:15-6:35	Spokane NAACP	Lisa Gardner, President
6:35-6:45	"Event Planning"- Spokane Pride Parade & Festival 6/8/24	
6:45-7:30	Committee Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive • Outreach • Civic Impact 	

	Adjournment	
	1) Next Human Rights Commission meeting is scheduled for Jul 3rd, 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

June 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 had a private meeting with a "Homeless-Service-Provider" & several "National ACLU Attorneys" on 5/6/24, which that meeting was on the topics surrounding our *Homeless-Neighbors and their issues they have with the Police*.
- The Fig Tree Magazine reached out to the SHRC Chair, in order to find out if the Commission wanted to go forward again with purchasing the "same ad space" in the magazine that we have gotten over the past several years and that "ad space" cost is \$295. The SHRC Bylaws states that amounts under \$300 the Chair can approve without having a vote of the full Commission, which in this case with the Fig Tree the SHRC Chair used that *authority*. (Attached to this email is the Fig Tree Ad Copy and the billing invoice).
- On 5/9/24 the SHRC Chair attended the "Public Safety Community Meeting held at The NATIVE Project", in which the meeting was about the search for the new Police Chief and Public-Safety in our community.
- The SHRC Chair reached out to Ami Manning & Angel Tomeo Sam with "Experience Matters", in order to have "Experience Matters" give a presentation to the Commission at the July meeting which due to scheduling issues we were to have this presentation at our April meeting. The presentation would be about that organizations' work in our community *regarding*

the common belief that everyone has a right to housing that is safe, stable, & affordable. As well as the belief that we all must work together to develop a regional approach to assisting our houseless community that will shift power, challenge stereotypes, break down barriers, & shape policies that truly address the root causes of homelessness. A unified approach of solutions designed by & with those with the most experience, supported collaboratively by local government, & include all the stakeholders at the table together. Plus, the SHRC would like to hear about this organizations' recent letter to City & County Government asking for them to declare a "State of Emergency for Fentanyl-Overdoses". Which it was then on 3/25/24 the City Council passed a Resolution about this matter. Ami Manning & Angel Tomeo-Sam agreed to this presentation.

- The SHRC Chair reached out Director Jerrall Haynes with the "Office of Civil Rights, Equity, & Inclusion (OCREI)", in order to have the "OCREI" give a presentation to the Commission at the July meeting. The presentation would be about that organizations' work in our community *regarding providing city-wide leadership & guidance in the areas of civil rights, equity, & inclusion; by promoting the removal of historical & existing barriers to access to services within the boundaries of the City of Spokane & work to eliminate discrimination in housing, employment, & public accommodations for all people.* Mr. Haynes agreed to this presentation.
- The OCREI Director let the SHRC Chair know that the SHRC Budget had been *completely-depleted*, which this information came after the Chair had inquired with OCREI Director about the current balance of the SHRC Budget Account. This information was a shock to the SHRC Chair, due to the fact that *up to that point the Commission had only spent a few \$100's out the \$3,500 SHRC Budget*. The OCREI Director said that the Commission was being charged for the "after-hours City Hall security guards" without any notice to all City Boards & Commissions, and that those charges only started

right after the previous City Administration left office. The SHRC Chair was assured by OCREI Director that they would work with the current City Administration to resolve this issue. At that point the SHRC Chair informed the SHRC Executive Committee and the SHRC City Council Liaison about this matter. After much discussion inside City Hall, it has been decided that the SHRC will NOT be charged for after-hours City Hall security guards and that SHRC Budget has been *restored in-full*. The SHRC Chair has reached out to the OCREI Director, in order to find out what the current balance of the SHRC Budget Account is and then the Chair will share that with the full Commission.

- The SHRC Chair worked with the City Clerk's Office, in order to again finish completing the "Public-Records-Request" from a citizen to the Commission about the Monaghan statue – in which the Clerk's Office would later ask to get the attachments associated with the emails the Chair had sent earlier in February. This is the 2nd time a "Public-Records-Request" has been asked of the Commission about this matter in the past year.
- On 5/21/24 the SHRC Chair attended the "City Hall Press Conference with City Council & Community Leaders" *addressing the recent vandalism of the Pride Crosswalk in downtown Spokane and expressing their safety concerns and condemn hate crimes against members of the LGBTQIA+ community & communities of color*. The full press conference can be seen at the following link:
https://www.khq.com/news/spokane-leaders-address-vandalism-of-pride-mural-downtown/video_9f6c46f4-1477-11ef-b60e-1f892b51d4b4.html
- Held an SHRC Executive Committee Meeting on 5/19/24.
- On 5/20/24 the SHRC Chair sent a *very-lengthy-email* to Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners (SNAP) Leadership & CEO Julie Honekamp, in which the email expressed deep concerns about SNAP removing AC units from their SNAP owned properties where *low-income, disabled & senior*

people live at. Also in this email I relayed the fact of the [upcoming City Council's "Heat Health & Safety Ordinance ORD-C36523 " which would guarantee a tenant's right to install and use a "portable cooling device" of their choice, provided that its use does not violate building code or damage the premises and follows state and federal law.](#)

Which this ordinance had its 1st reading at the [5/20/24 City Council Meeting](#), in which [ORD-C36523](#) can be found on [page #15 & page #512](#) at the following link

<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/citycouncil/advance-agendas/2024/05/city-council-advance-agenda-2024-05-20.pdf>. It was later that evening on 5/20 that the SHRC

Chair gave "[Public-Comment](#)" at the [City Council](#) meeting during the agenda item on [ORD-C36523](#), in which the Chair had 3-minutes to talk about issues that were sent to [SNAP](#) earlier that day by the Chair.

- On 5/21/24 the SHRC Chair attended the [Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman Commission \(OPOC\)](#) meeting, which their guest presenter was to be [Mayor Lisa Brown](#) but due to a scheduling issue [Assistant City Administrator Maggie Yates](#) gave the presentation. Over the past months the [Assistant City Administrator](#) has been hosting "[Public Safety Community Meetings](#)" about the search for the new [Police Chief & Public-Safety in our community](#), which at the [OPOC](#) meeting the presentation was about that. During public comment at the meeting the SHRC Chair testified about issues surrounding "[law-enforcement as a tool of our City's Homelessness policy](#)", and also there testifying was a "Impacted-Family Member" touched by Police-Violence who talked about their current work on changing state laws.
- The [City's Planning Department](#) reached out to the SHRC Chair, in which they were asking to do a presentation for the Commission. This presentation will be about the *City of Spokane beginning a process around climate planning as part of the [City's Comprehensive Plan](#) periodic update, which sets goals & policies for the long-term vision of the City.*

- On 5/30/24 the SHRC Chair attended the "[Spokane Valley Homeless Connect](#)", which is a *Free-Community-Services-Event* designed to offer practical help to Spokane Families, that includes **CHAS Medical Services, DSHS Mobile Services, Haircuts, Free Meal, Food/Clothing Bank** & More!
- Regularly communicated with the Mayor's Office last month *about the process of filling 1 vacancies on the Commission* and 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.
- SHRC City Council Liaison Councilmember Lili Navarrete & their staff reached out to the SHRC Chair several times during the month, in order to update the Chair 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](#).
- 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 June 6, 2024 SHRC meeting event. As well as posting the Agenda in the comment post section.
- Re-posted a post several times from the City of Spokane - Municipal Government, in which the post was about the "[City of Spokane Public-Safety-Survey](#)" getting feedback regarding public safety leadership & community priorities.
- Re-posted a post from "The Black Lens Newspaper", in which the post was about "[the 1923 Black Inventor, Garrett Morgan](#)" *who patented the 3-position traffic signal by creating the yellow caution light*.

- Re-posted a post from the Spokane Police Department & the Spokane Parks Department, in which the post was about Spokane Police conducting park emphasis including enforcement of after-hours City Park violations.
- Posted about the upcoming community event of the 2024 Asian Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Festival held at Riverfront Park and hosted by "Spokane United We Stand".
- Re-posted a post from "The NATIVE Project", in which the post was about the upcoming "Police Chief Search Community Meeting" on 5/9/24 being held at "The NATIVE Project" located at 1803 W. Maxwell Ave from 6pm to 7pm.
- Re-posted a post several times from the City of Spokane - Municipal Government, in which the post was about the recent release of the City's-Audit of Spokane's homeless shelter system that points toward moving from a large congregate shelter to a model with smaller, scattered sites.
- Re-posted a post from Spokane City Council, in which the post was about the upcoming May 20th City Council Community Day, celebrating Asian American Heritage Month.
- Re-posted a post from City of Spokane Mayor's Office, in which the post was about Mayor Lisa Brown's statement on the repeated defacement of downtown Spokane's Pride flag mural.
- Posted a news story from KHQ-TV, which the story was about "Threatening graffiti and LGBTQ+ Pride mural vandalism found in downtown Spokane".
- Re-posted a post from City of Spokane Mayor's Office, in which the post was about Mayor Lisa Brown's statement on the shooting in downtown Spokane during the "Torchlight Parade".
- Posted about *community-nominations* are now open for the "2024 Human Rights Champions Awards".
- Re-posted a post from Spokane Pride, in which the post was about upcoming "Spokane Pride Parade & Festival" held at the Riverfront Park on 6/8/24.

- Re-posted a post from Spokane Pride, in which the post was about their fundraiser to repaint the downtown Spokane's Pride flag mural has gotten enough money to FULLY FUND the repainting of the Mural.
- Re-posted a post from Spokane NAACP, in which the post was about their upcoming "Meet & Greet event" on 5/25/24 in Kendal Yards.
- Posted a news story from KREM-TV, which the story was about "Coeur d'Alene Tribe alleges racial harassment toward Tribal School students"
- Re-posted a post from Spokane Valley Connect, in which the post was about their upcoming "Spokane Homeless Connect" on 5/30/24 this is a *Free-Community-Services-Event* designed to offer practical help to Spokane Families, that includes **CHAS Medical Services, DSHS Mobile Services, Haircuts, Free Meal, Food/Clothing Bank** & More!
- Re-posted a post from the Smith-Barbieri Progressive Fund, A Charitable Foundation, in which the post was about that day they had attended the return of meetings regarding the possibility of developing a Regional Homeless Authority.

SPOKANE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 2, 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: Ivan Urnovitz provided public comment regarding materials he is preparing for the Commission’s review that will outline and recommend an updated approach for how the John R. Monaghan statue should be addressed, particularly in light of the enactment of ORD C36484 (review of community concerns regarding institutional statements, names or monuments on property owned by the City).

Virtual: N/A

Roll Call

Attendees:

COMMISSIONERS: Chair Anwar Peace, Vice Chair Brennan “Boone” Schreibman, Commissioner Alex Knox, Commissioner Maria Hernandez-Peck, Commissioner Susan McFadden, Commissioner Hayley Harrison (v), Commissioner Kurtis Robinson (v).

OTHERS: Andres Crageda, Legislative Assistant to City Councilmember Lili Navarrete.

Update re. SHRC Resolution 2023-03: “A resolution concerning the human rights and basic dignity of individuals experiencing homelessness.”

By: Andres Crageda, Legislative Assistant to City Councilmember Lili Navarrete.

Mr. Crageda provided the Commission with an update regarding SHRC Resolution 2023-03, which the SHRC adopted on October 5, 2023. Mr. Crageda advised that the City Council President assigned the matter to Council staff: Christopher Wright – City Policy Advisor & Nicolette Ocheltree - Manager of Housing and Homelessness Initiatives. The first meeting regarding the Resolution was held this week. Those analyzing the proposal concluded that some items contained within the Resolution were beyond the City’s authority to address (*e.g.*, Providing documentation allowing the ability to vote, identification cards, etc.). Councilmember Navarrete and policy staff will recommend that City Council enact an ordinance containing the actionable items that were approved by City Legal. For the remaining items beyond the City’s authority to address, Councilmember Navarrete and policy staff will recommend that Council adopt a resolution addressing these items, which Councilmember Navarrete will advocate for during upcoming legislative session.

Introduction of Commissioner Susan McFadden

By: Chair Peace and Commissioner Susan McFadden.

Presentation re. SNAP--Eastern Washington Long-Term Care Ombuds Program

By: Richard Danford, Ombudsman

SHRC Committee Assignments and Committee Lead Elections

Discussion: Chair Peace announced that former Outreach Committee Lead, Commissioner Arballo-Saenz, resigned from the SHRC effective 04/30/24, leaving the Outreach Committee Lead position vacant. This is an important role at this time of the year due to many upcoming community events where the SHRC has historically participated. Vice Chair Schreibman described the role and various responsibilities of the Outreach Committee Lead. Commissioner Robinson proposed that Commissioner McFadden formally assume the committee lead role, with heavy support from Commissioners Robinson and Harrison.

Motion: Commissioner Robinson moved to appoint Commissioner McFadden as Outreach Committee Lead.

Second: Commissioner Harrison.

Chair Peace called the question.

All in favor: Chair Peace, Vice Chair Schreibman, Commissioner Harrison, Commissioner Knox, Commissioner Hernandez-Peck, Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner McFadden.

Opposed: N/A

Motion carries – *Commissioner McFadden is appointed as Outreach Committee Lead.*

Motion: Commissioner Knox moved to appoint Commissioner Robinson to be a member of the Outreach Committee.

Second: Commissioner Harrison.

Chair Peace called the question.

All in favor: Chair Peace, Vice Chair Schreibman, Commissioner Harrison, Commissioner Knox, Commissioner Hernandez-Peck, Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner McFadden.

Opposed: N/A

Motion carries – *Commissioner Robinson is appointed as a member of the Outreach Committee.*

Rescheduling July 4, 2024 Regular Meeting

Discussion: Chair Peace noted that the SHRC's July regular meeting will fall on Independence Day. City Council Chambers is available July 2, July 3, July 10, and July 11. Discussion ensued re. availability on these dates. Most viable date determined to be July 3. This is Commissioner Robinson's birthday, but Commissioner Robinson noted his enthusiasm to commit the day to furthering the work of the SHRC. It was determined that some form of celebration is necessary and proper. Commissioner Knox will provide cake, and Vice Chair Schreibman will provide hats.

Motion: Vice Chair Schreibman moved to reschedule the July 2024 regular meeting from July 4, 2024, to July 3, 2024; same time and location.

Second: Commissioner Hernandez-Peck.

Chair Peace called the question.

All in favor: Chair Peace, Vice Chair Schreibman, Commissioner Harrison, Commissioner Knox, Commissioner Hernandez-Peck, Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner McFadden.

Opposed: N/A

Motion carries – *The SHRC July 2024 regular meeting will be moved from July 4, 2024, to July 3, 2024; same time, same location.*

Committee Updates

Executive Committee: State Legislature enacted a law to combat the fentanyl epidemic, to be implemented by the Washington State Attorney General's Office. Spokane County will likely be one of the three pilot counties for the program. The Chair is looking into possible collaboration with the AGO.

Outreach Committee: OCREI Director Haynes advised that the invoice for SHRC's table space at Spokane Pride was remitted to the event organizers. Committee Lead McFadden and Vice Chair Schreibman to coordinate the SHRC's participation in the event.

Civic Impact Committee: Committee Lead Knox discussed the Committee's intent to collaborate with SNAP on aging & long-term care issues. The Committee will continue to follow City Council's consideration and action with respect to SHRC Resolution 2023-03. The Committee is also focusing on strengthening hate crime reporting and has begun looking at inadequacies in City ordinances to this effect.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m. by Chair Peace.

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