

## HRC Meeting, Sept. 23, 2015

Commissioner Stum called the meeting to order 5:33pm.

Present: Commissioners Stum, Lemus, Fallenstein, Toston, Sijohn, Bonner

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

Guest: Nancy Sonduck, interested in Commission membership

Beginning notes and announcements: Kitara Johnson reversed resignation and she is still on Commission. Chief Straub just forced to resign given unprofessional conduct, creation of a hostile work environment. Interim Chief is Rick DeBrough.

Access Spokane expo disability related job fair, done in conjunction with County Disability Division; awesome for students and adults attend to see prospective employers. Oct 28 at Convention Center. Luncheon to give out awards to different employers in community. Commissioner Lemus will send us fliers.

Gender and Race Pay Equity Task Force meets Thursday 9/25 5:30pm.

President Sirleaf will be at GU on Oct 4th. Fallenstein will send out to Commission

Boomers and Beyond: aging conference Oct 2 Convention all day 9-5pm. Lots of information on alternative living situations, downsizing, access to services as older people.

Policy update:

\*Ban the Box is in data collection. I did the time wants to do a business summit to education people in the community about the policy and what's going on with the box issue.

\*Sick leave deferred to Jan 11/12 meeting. Some council members not in agreement with original policy. Didn't want safe time included, called Safe Time.

\*Death Penalty came close to moving bill through legislature. Gov passed moratorium.

\*Gender Race Pay Equity shooting to have report out in Feb 2016 with timeline of implementation and audit procedures.

Courageous Conversations

Planning subcommittee meeting to discuss logistics and the like. Stum will follow up with Oberst.

Work Updates

## Sijohn

Bonner: working to push 2016 Inland Empire Disability Parade. In Spokane Co have 82,000 disabled people. 22.9% of adults have medical condition, some serious mental illness. Ambulatory, cognitive, hearing, self-care, and vision difficulties over 4000 people. In 2008 20% had disability, 2013 went to 25% in 2020 33% in this county. Need City to get on board to have celebration, parade and convention. Contacted Unity in the Community.

Toston: very interested in public meetings and processes. Like to do something with young people to learn about the process so they can become involved early on. Light Rail in Seattle issues. Now kids are required to have certain number of hours in altruism and volunteerism. Working toward entree into school system. Public service training for African American women and men try to help engage more into the system. Now aging out and need youth in the movement. Was inspirational. Commissioner Bonner suggested Toston contact the NAACP as resource for his plans.

Lemus: continuing to work with ARC and disability response team. Discussed Sheriff's office feedback. Worried local providers are calling 911 when they don't need to be. Will be working with department for the mandatory reporting processes, including using Crime Check. Providing fact sheets on disabilities to the Officers as well as information about best practices. Looking in to putting someone from Frontier Behavioral Health into community response. Sgt Tucker appointed to group. Disability Rights WA posted two videos on service animal laws. Working with STA and issues with people putting their dogs on the bus and they aren't service animals. Access Spokane expo and addition of the resource fair with employers. Division of Voc Rehab put in \$10,000

Fallenstein: discussed work on Gender Task Force.

Nancy Sonduck: license and training/testing for legitimate service animals. Hard to discern if the animal is trained and it is a privilege to have an animal. So training and testing might help. Would be awesome for legit owners as well as business owners. Also lack of education for TBI, PTSD in the workplace. Want to get education for staff so they can be so much better prepared and tolerant. Commissioner Bonner discussed her experiences in the community as well.

## Commission Retreat

Sent out Doodle poll and Commissioner Stum will follow up for time and date. Interested in continuing our discussion on what we envision for the Commission and our future together. Commissioner Toston discussed Diversity Fair or something annually.

## New Business

Monroe St Bridge barrier: national suicide bridge. Lots of history with attempts and completions. 210 calls in last 10 years. 6 DOA. At least 20 calls a year for 10 years. Certain methods are more lethal than others. Falls are second most lethal (guns first). Included information on means restriction generally and data on falls. Suicide barriers in other communities. Toronto has luminous veil if we want to see examples. Commissioner Stum would like to suggest working with Historic Landmark commission as well as the City to create a barrier. Can pre-empt any rejection due to appearance by working with artists and the like. Looking at \$1.5 to 2 million from beginning to completion. Definitely something the HRC can address. Will defer to next month given Commissioner Oberst's absence tonight.

Adjourned 6:32PM.

Notes submitted by Andrea L. Fallenstein, Commissioner