

Spokane Human Rights Commission

January 10, 2017

Meeting Minutes: Meeting called to order at 6:03

Attendance:

- Board Members Present: John Lemus, Aaron Tilbury, Amina Fields, Ashley Torres, Nicole Bishop, Aaron Riley
- Board Not Members Present: Andrea Fallenstein, Ronald Toston, Geoffrey Bagwell, Karen Stratton; City Council Liaison
- Staff Members Present: Alicia Ayars, Mike Piccolo

Minutes from the November 15, 2016 meetings approved unanimously.

Discussion Items:

1. Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA) Overview

- Presentation and Overview Given on the OPMA by Interim City Attorney Mike Piccolo
- Questions Asked and Answered

2. SHRC Bylaw Review/Proposed Changes

- Commission Bishop made a motion to remove bylaw 19.3 which states: to be elected to the position of Chair of the SHRC a member must have completed a full year of their appointment to the SHRC. Motion seconded by Aaron Riley. Motion passed unanimously.
- John Lemus made a motion to amend bylaw 19.4 to include a vice chair position that would hold the position for 1 year. Elections for this position will be held on the first meeting of every year. If the position shall become vacant mid-term the vacancy would be filled until the term expiration. Motion seconded by Aaron Tilbury. Motion passed unanimously.
- John Lemus made a motion to add bylaw subsection 11.1 D LGBTQIA Subcommittee: Members of this committee shall be responsible for the commission's efforts in areas of interest to the LGBTQIA population and to coordinate with other civic resources and agencies. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tilbury. Motion passes unanimously.
- Commission Lemus made a motion to add bylaw subsection 11.1 E Human Trafficking Subcommittee: Members of this committee shall work on areas of interest around human trafficking and education and awareness in conjunction with the Education/Planning subcommittee. This committee shall coordinate with other civic resources and agencies. Motion seconded by Commissioner Torres. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Lemus made a motion to modify section 20.1 to state; any member who misses more than three (3) meetings of the full SHRC in a twelve (12) month period and/or fails to participate in SHRC activities, or if there are any other mitigating factors of the members behavior that is brought to the attention of the SHRC or Chair they may be asked to resign from the Commission by the Chair. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bishop. Motion passes unanimously.

- Commission agrees to properly notice all the motions to modify the bylaws per section 22.1 of the SHRC bylaws all commissioners will receive written notice of the proposed change has been provided to each member at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting to cast a vote.
- John Lemus made a motion to add clarifying language to section 19.4 to state the duties of the Vice chair shall be assisting with setting the agendas, in absence of the chair the vice chair will take on the duties and responsibilities of the chair, the vice chair shall serve as the acting chair until the commission takes action to fill the position permanently for the remaining portion of the term. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bishop. Motion passes unanimously.
- Commissioner Fields makes a motion to remove section 21.3 which states The Chair does not move motions and does not vote, except where there is an equality of votes, in which case the Chair has a casting vote. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tilbury. Motion passed unanimously.
- John Lemus made a motion to add at the end of section 21.1 language that states “relating to the SHRC and may delegate duties to commission members as needed. Motion seconded by Commissioner Riley. Motion passes unanimously

3. Budget Presentation

- Presentation and Overview Given on the SHRC Budget by Alicia Ayars
- Questions Asked and Answered
- Commission expressed interested in investing in education and awareness through the following events:
 - Unity in the Community
 - MLK Unity Way Fair
 - Friends of the MLK Center
 - PRIDE
 - Flag handle sponsorship
 - Hmong Celebration
 - Courageous Conversations
 - Youth rally/march
 - Scholarship funding
 - Essay
 - Art
- Discussion to be continued at the February 28th 2017 meeting.

4. SHRC Commission & Subcommittee Officials Elections

- **Human Trafficking Subcommittee:**
 - Commissioner Fields made a motion to nominate Commissioner Bishop as Chair of the Human Trafficking subcommittee. Motion seconded by Commissioner Lemus.
- **LGBTQIA Subcommittee:**
 - Commissioner Lemus made a motion to nominate Commissioner Torres for the LGBTQIA Subcommittee. Motion seconded Commissioner Bishop

- Commissioner Fields made a motion to nominate Commissioner Fallenstein for the LGBTQIA Subcommittee. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tilbury.
- **Education and Planning Committee:**
 - Commissioner Lemus made a motion to nominate Commissioner Bishop for the Education and Planning Committee. Motion seconded Commissioner Tilbury
- **Complaint Subcommittee:**
 - Commissioner Fields nominates herself for the Complaint Subcommittee. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tilbury.
- **Rules/Procedure Subcommittee:**
 - Commissioner Riley nominates himself for the Rules/Procedure Subcommittee. Motion seconded by Commissioner Fields.
- **Vice Chair:**
 - Votes for Vice Chair will be withheld till the February meeting.

Election Held and votes are counted as follows:

Human Rights Commission Chair- John Lemus (5/1)
 Human Trafficking Committee Chair- Aaron Tilbury (4/2)
 LGBTQIA Committee Chair- Ashley Torres (4/2)
 Education/Planning Committee Chair- Nicole Bishop (6/0)
 Complaint Committee Chair- Amina Fields (6/0)
 Rules/Procedures Committee Chair- Aaron Riley (6/0)

5. SHRC Work Plan Updates

- Commissioner Lemus asked to table the Work Plan updates for the February 28th meeting.

Briefing Session:

- Presidential report-
 - Overview of Retreat
 - Partnership with SCHRTF
 - MLK March Scheduling
 - Commissioner Bagwell resigned and the position has been posted.
- Staff Report- none
- November 20th is Trans Gender day of awareness.
- December 8, 2016 the 2015 US Transgender survey was released. The survey can be viewed at the US Center for transgender equality website
- PRIDE parade will be held June 10, 2017.
- The refugee connection committee is hosting a Law and Justice workshop for refugees and immigrants in April.
- Women's March is held on January 21, 2017.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:58 P.M.

Next Human Rights Commission Meeting is scheduled for **February 28, 2017**