

# Spokane Human Rights Commission

**February 28, 2017**

Meeting Minutes: Meeting called to order at 5:38

## **Attendance:**

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

**Commissioner Fallenstein makes a motion to add the vote for vice president to the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bishop. Motion passes unanimously.**

## **Commission Briefing Session:**

1) Minutes from the January 10, 2017 amended meeting minutes approved unanimously.

2) City Council Report

- a. Presented the current draft of the Human Rights Title 18 ordinance.

3) Presidents Report

- a. 19 applications were received for the vacant Citizen at Large position on the Spokane Human Rights Commission. Discussed conducting interviews on a Saturday in March in the Community Building.
- b. Spokane Human Rights Commission By-laws will be finalized and approved at the March 28, 2017 meeting.
- c. John Lemus nominated Ashley Torres. Commission voted unanimously to approve Commission Torres as Vice Chair.

## **Discussion Items:**

**1. Work Plan Review**

- Commission President Lemus opened the discussion on the Draft Work Plan.
- Board discussed suggested amendments to the 2017 SHRC Work Plan.
- Council Member Stratton suggested adding data collection to the Education and Planning category of the work plan.
- Commissioner Bishop suggested adding involvement in the Unity of the Community in August to the Education and Planning category of the work plan.
- Commission President Lemus suggests adding the 25 year campaign to the Education and Planning category of the work plan.
- Board discussed funding and budget options.
- Discussed adding involvement in the schools to the Education and Planning category of the work plan.
- Discussed budget items.

- Commission President Lemus suggested adding the Human Rights Awards to the Planning and Education category of the work plan.
- Commissioner Toston made a motion to approve the amended 2017 Work Plan. Motion seconded by Commissioner Fallenstein. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Commission Briefing Session (Continued):**

- Commissioner Lemus presents an opportunity to hold a public forum on the 2017 Human Rights Commission Work Plan.
- Commissioner Bishop shares an opportunity to spread information about the Human Rights events through Facebook.

### **Discussion Items (continued):**

#### **2. Sub-committee updates**

- LGBTQIA- Commissioner Bishop is working on a project with the Downtown Spokane Partnership to build a program for the LGBTQIA through their Homeless outreach program.
- Human Trafficking- Commissioner Bishop provided an overview of the Human Trafficking Subcommittee meeting.
- Education/Planning- Commissioner Bishop the first subcommittee meeting will be held in the beginning of March.
- Rules & Procedure-None
- Complaint-None

### **New Business:**

- Marshallese Refugees-moved to the March Agenda
- Board discussed meeting with the Police Department regarding investigations that were not presented to the OPO. Discussed having the Chief of Police attend the next Public Meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:00 P.M.**

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