Spokane Human Rights Commission

March 28, 2017
Meeting Minutes: Meeting called to order at 5:34

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

Commission Briefing Session:
1) Minutes from the February 28, 2017 meeting approved unanimously.
2) City Council Report
   a. Anti-discrimination ordinance was passed at the February 27, 2017 City Council meeting.
   b. Council also clarified the enforcement of discriminatory actions by landlords.

Commissioner Fields makes a motion to move the public comment period to after the Presidents report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Fallenstein. Motion passes unanimously.
3) Presidents Report
   a. 19 Applications were received for the SHRC Vacancy. Members who attended the hearings recommend four of the applicants move forward to the Mayor’s office.
      - Lance Kissler
      - Jennifer Thomas
      - Nick Mather
      - Luke Tolley

Commissioner Bishop makes a motion to recommend the 4 candidates to the Mayor’s office. Motion seconded by Commissioner Riley. Motion passes unanimously.
   b. Debriefed the reception and the Spokane Human Rights Commission Work Plan presentation to City Council.

Public Comment:
- Mr. McDowell presented a debugging software that he developed to the Commission.
- Brian Brimming spoke regarding agenda items three and four.

Discussion Items:
1) SHRC Bylaw Review/Proposed Changes
   - Recommends the following:
     - Changing the language identifying a quorum.
     - Adding the LGBTQIA subcommittee
     - Striking the language in the election section that restricted individuals who did not qualify for the chair position due to limited years of service.
     - Modifying the language regarding member attendance.
     - Adding language to the Chair’s responsibilities.
Sticking the language that limited the chair's ability to vote.

Next steps are to seek approval from the City’s attorney’s office. Followed by adoption by the City Council and the Mayor’s office.

2) Subcommittee Updates
- LGBTQIA-Commission Torres:
  - Planning the next Quarterly Subcommittee meeting in April.
  - Purchased the handle on the pride flag.
- Human Trafficking-Commissioner Bishop:
  - Connecting with local agencies to gain liaison involvement.
- Education/Planning-Commissioner Bishop:
  - Discussing goals and developing a work plan.
- Rules & Procedure-Commissioner Riley
  - Working on developing the SHRC Bylaws
  - Will be holding meetings quarterly.
  - Commissioner Fallenstein volunteered to help with the rules and procedure Subcommittee
- Complaint-Commission President Lemus
  - Commission will now be processing complaints.
  - Discussed creating an electronic complaint form and what information would be necessary for processing and following up on complaints.
  - Discussed incorporating 311 in the complaint reporting process.

3) Chief Meidl-Q&A
- Commissioners asked Police Chief Meidl questions on the 11 OPO violations and what will be done in the future to prevent these situations.
- Questions asked and answered.
- Discussion ensued.

4) Bart Logue-Q&A
- Commissioners asked Bart Logue with the Ombudsman Department questions about the 11 OPO violations and what will be don’t in the future to prevent these situations.
- Questions asked and answered.
- Discussion ensued.

New Business:
- None

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Next Human Rights Commission Meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2017