

# 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 chairs 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 Meidle 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**