

Spokane Human Rights Commission

June 27, 2017

Meeting Minutes: Meeting called to order at 5:32

Attendance:

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

Minutes from the May 23, 2017 meeting approved unanimously.

Public Comment:

None

Commission Briefing Session:

- 1) Presidential Report-
 - Commissioners Torres, Lemus and Fallenstein ran the SHRC booth at PRIDE.
 - Welcomed new Commissioner, Lance Kissler.
 - Unity in the Community will be held on August 19 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Commissioners will be needed to run the booth.
- 2) Staff Report-
 - Alicia Ayars with Neighborhood & Business Services, provided an update on the SHRC Budget.
 - Alicia Ayars is working with the legal department to draft up a policy and procedure for taking in Title 18 complaints.
- 3) Presidential Report (continued)-
 - Welcomed new Commissioner, Jennifer Thomas.

Discussion Items:

- 1) **City Diversity Data**
 - Christine Cavanaugh, Director of Human Resources, presented diversity data in the City of Spokane.
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.
- 2) **Subcommittee Reports:**
 - **LGBTQIA**-Commissioner Torres provided an update on the work the LGBTQIA Subcommittee is doing in the community.
 - Hosted a booth at the PRIDE event.
 - Courageous Conversation occurred a couple weeks ago regarding the barriers for transgender individuals in our community.
 - Participated in the rally against Initiative 1552.
 - **Human Trafficking**- Commissioner Bishop provided an update on the work the Human Trafficking Subcommittee is doing in the community.
 - Council member Kinnear is working on a piece of legislation that will decriminalize prostitution

- Discussed providing training for first responders and nurses on properly caring for and processing individuals of physical and sexual trauma.
- **Education and Planning-** Commissioner Bishop is resigning from the Education and Planning Subcommittee. A vote to fill the vacancy will be held at the July meeting.
- **Rules and Procedures-** Commissioner Riley did not have an update to provide the Commission.
- **Complaint Subcommittee-** Commissioner Fields provided an update on the work the Complaint Subcommittee is doing in the community.
 - Waiting to receive the complete redacted complaint data from the State Human Rights Commission.
 - Waiting to review the Title 18 policy and procedures that Alicia Ayars and legal staff are working on developing.
- **Bylaw Subcommittee-** Commissioner Riley provided an update on the work the Education and Planning Subcommittee is doing in the community.

Public Comment (continued):

None

New Business:

- 1) Commissioner Riley suggests that a courageous conversation regarding the best practices involving human trafficking and sexual assault victims.
- 2) Commissioner Toston invites the commissioners to Revive & Reentry training regarding trauma victims. More details provided as they are received.
- 3) Commissioner Fields suggests that the Commission host some meetings at community centers throughout the City to try to get more community involvement.
- 4) Commissioner Toston expressed interest in the chair position for the Education and Planning Subcommittee.
- 5) Commissioner Bishop shared an event that is hosted on July 20th at 7pm at the Garland Theater to support the Fulcrum Dispute Resolution Clinic. The event includes a documentary and a silent auction.
- 6) Commissioner Torres discussed some ideas regarding expanding the ethnic diversity within the employment of the City of Spokane.
- 7) Commissioner Fallenstein expressed interest in getting the commission invested in the current Health Care issues.
- 8) Commissioner Fallenstein shared an event that is occurring at Gonzaga in October presented by Angela Y Davis.
- 9) Commission discussed ways to get the community more involved in the Spokane Human Rights Commission

Meeting Adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Next Human Rights Commission Meeting is scheduled for **July 25, 2017**