

# Spokane Human Rights Commission

March 27, 2018

## Meeting Minutes

Vice-chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

### Public Comment:

None at this time.

### Commission Briefing Session:

#### 1) Roll Call:

- a) Board Members Present: Commissioner Bishop; Andrea Fallenstein, Ronald Toston, Jennifer Thomas (late), Aaron Riley, Lance Kissler, Nicole Bishop, Amina Fields.
- b) Board Members Absent: Ashley Lee, John Lemus.
- c) Staff Members Present: Councilmember Kate Burke.
- d) Quorum: Yes

**Approve the February 27, 2018 Minutes:** Commissioner Fallenstein motioned to approve the minutes; Commissioner Riley seconded. Minutes approved unanimously 7/0.

#### 2) City Staff Report - Budget Update

- a. Alex Reynolds indicated there was no update at this time.

### Discussion Items

Aaron indicated there are some gaps to fill on this Commission - including trans, youth and senior/retired representative; reps from various city and local agencies. The younger generation needs to get involved. We need to check the bylaws/charter on how to add two people to the commission.

#### 1) Open Seat Candidate - Jac Archer:

- a. Jac was interviewed and gave some background information and discussed areas of interest.
- b. Q: *What is your specific interest?* Diversity, racial justice, gender equality, especially trans; have been an advocate for institutions to hire and retain faculty and students of color.
- c. Q: *What other aspirations do you have?* Public service, law school, policy.
- d. Q: *Given your level of involvement in these other organizations, what level of energy can you bring to this Commission?* Jac indicated they would not have applied if they couldn't attend a monthly meeting and be involved in a subcommittee; would be willing to do whatever it takes to get the work done.

#### 2) Open Seat Candidate - Tabitha Wolf

- a. Tabitha was interviewed and gave some background information and discussed areas of interest.
- b. Q: *Given your level of involvement in these other organizations, what level of energy can you bring to this Commission?* The monthly meeting is no issue. I would get involved with a subcommittee. I would want to participate in the LGBT subcommittee and possibly chair it when Andrea leaves.

#### 3) Open Seat Candidate - Earl Moore

- a. Earl was interviewed and gave some background information and discussed areas of interest.

All three names will be forwarded to the Mayor's office along with the Commission's recommendations. Two of the three applicants will be selected. The third we encourage to serve on a subcommittee.

Applicants asked questions of the Commissioners:

**4) GRIPS Program Q&A - Commissioner Bishop**

Commissioner Bishop read her statement, and noted that they fine-tuned the bylaws last month.

- a. Q: *Why do we need this group when the need has been met in the community?*  
As a City we have not fully addressed the issue.
- b. It was suggested that this topic could be covered under the Criminal Justice Reform committee, and call this group something different, such as a criminal reform or gang repression subcommittee and be separate from GRIPS.
- c. The SHRC bylaws say the SHRC *shall* have three subcommittees and there are currently five. Committees aren't always necessary to address a specific topic.

A suggestion was made to create four main subcommittees: The following committee names are broad to allow other related topics to be listed under these main topics:

- Community health and wellness
- Public Safety
- Diversity and Inclusivity
- Governance

**Next Month's Agenda:**

- It was recommended that a bylaw and subcommittee discussion be at the top of the agenda next month.
- Consult the SHRC bylaws regarding subcommittees vs task force or ad hoc committee (add to next agenda for discussion).
- Add gang violence under Criminal Justice Reform for next month's discussion.

**Standing Update(s)**

**1) Bylaws Discussion**

Aaron indicated he needs to update bylaws in track changes - will provide that to the Commissioners.

Motion to table bylaws discussion till next month. Fields moved/Toston second.  
Approved unanimously 8/0.

**Motion to adjourn; seconded; unanimous 8/0.**

Meeting Adjourned at 6:56 P.M.

The Next Human Rights Commission Meeting is scheduled for **April 24, 2018**