

# Spokane Human Rights Commission

June 26, 2018

## Meeting Minutes

Nicole Bishop -Vice-chair called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

### Commission Briefing Session:

#### A. Roll Call and Approve the May 22 Minutes:

- a. Commission Members Present: Nicole Bishop, Lance Kissler, Jennifer Thomas, Ronald Toston, John Lemus, Aaron Riley.
- b. Commission Members Absent: Ashley Lee.
- c. Staff Members Present: Alex Reynolds
- d. Quorum: Yes

#### Approve the May 22, 2018 Minutes:

Request made to amend “Vice Chair” to “Chair” after Commissioner Lee’s name. Commissioner Riley motioned to approve the minutes as amended; seconded by Commissioner Lemus. Minutes approved unanimously 6/0.

#### B. Public Comment:

None at this time.

### Discussion Items

#### 1) Budget Update - Alex Reynolds

- Budget update for funds spent so far for 2018.
- Total budget for the SHRC for 2018 is \$4,500; the amount spent to date is \$218.71; leaving a balance of \$4,381.29.
- Fiscal year is January 1 to December 31.
- Unused money goes back into the General Fund if not used this year.
- To receive the same amount next year the SHRC will need to be justified by the Commission.
- Some of the remaining money may be used for rebranding by Jennifer and Lance.
- Some money may be used for the SHRC awards.
- Money is also set aside for booths, flags and miscellaneous items.

#### 2) Bylaws Update and Discussion

A copy of the bylaws with the changes, and also a version showing track changes and those amendments was provided. Commissioner Bishop explained that at the last meeting the commissioners had made a more thorough review of the bylaws. Then Commissioners Riley and Bishop had gone through and edited and fine-tuned it from there. A request for any other additions or changes at this time was made.

Commissioner Toston made a motion to accept the bylaws as amended. Commissioner Lemus seconded. Passed 6/0.

## **Subcommittee Updates**

- **Education and Planning Sub-committee:**

Commissioners Thomas and Kissler reported that they need to schedule another meeting to discuss the next steps for rebranding; we now know where we are with the budget so we can come back to the next meeting with some recommendations for spending requests.

Commissioner Kissler noted that they also have a follow-up item with Lisa from the Spokane County Human Rights Task Force to start discussions regarding combining the human rights awards event with them.

Commissioner Bishop noted that she heard there may be an opportunity for kids to design the next SHRC logo. Commissioner Kissler said they will likely work with an RFP or perhaps a professional who will donate time; then use kids to design some posters or a collage that engages youth. They may also feature kids artwork on the SHRC Facebook page and/or a calendar.

- **Anti-trafficking Update - Commissioner Bishop**

Will be planning an event around July 20<sup>th</sup>, and will let you know when that is confirmed.

### **LGBT Update - Commissioner Kissler**

The Pride parade happened this past month and went well. Let me know if you have any suggestions for next year. He will schedule a committee meeting or Coffee with a Commissioner and let the commissioners know when that happens.

- **Suicide Means Prevention Task Force - Commissioner Lemus**

We are about to host the third meeting which will be an in-person meeting at City Hall. Monday Commissioner Lemus met with the Chief Health Officer from the Spokane Regional Health District; Sarah Clements-Simpson from Providence; Sabrina Votava from Failsafe for Life; and Dr. David Crump from Spokane Public Schools. We talked about all the work that's being done, but we are not coordinating efforts, and there are other stakeholders that need to be invited to the table. We will ask Multi-care if they are interested in getting this 'off the ground', providing staff to coordinate everyone to come up with recommendations and submit to the administration. He noted he had heard from Bob Lutz that he wants this completed faster than the year time-frame that was suggested, because the need is pressing. Blaine Stum provided some great data and analysis for us.

- **Criminal Justice Committee - Commissioner Toston**

Next month there will be a representative from the Racial and Ethnic Diversity Subcommittee from the SJLRC to speak to us about events taking place at the SJLRC (funded from the McArthur Foundation).

Next month the County Commissioners are going to release a plan to build a new jail. The greater issue is that the ex-administrator of the SJLRC, Jackie Warner stepped down, and Alfred has taken her place, and is now the lead of the SJLRC, whose purpose was to reduce racial disparity in the jail, and to date, that has not changed. Having him in these two positions is counterintuitive. We are in contact with the Center for Justice.

Commissioner Lemus noted that it's time to let the McArthur Foundation know that they need to start asking questions.

Commissioner Toston left the meeting at this time for another appointment.

**Other Updates:**

If you need reimbursement for meeting refreshments, contact the Chair and have them submit receipts to City accounting; need a two day notice to Alex Reynolds.

**Commissioner Kissler:** Noted he received an email from some of the initiative leads for Spokind campaign, who are looking for volunteers for their booth at Hoopfest this weekend. He also received an email while he was away from Kim Pearman-Gillman and the YWCA, who would like to work with the SHRC on an initiative on domestic violence.

**Motion to adjourn Lumus; seconded Thomas; unanimous 5/0.**

Meeting Adjourned at 6:01 P.M.

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