

Spokane Human Rights Commission

June 3, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:37 pm

Public Comment

- None

Commission Briefing Session:

1. Roll Call and Approve the May 5, 2020 Minutes:
 - a. Commission Members Present: Lance Kissler, Earl Moore, Hayley Harrison, Aaron Riley, Jac Archer
 - b. Commission Members Absent: Councilmember Betsy Wilkerson, John Lemus
 - c. Staff Members Present: Melissa Morrison
2. Quorum: Yes
 - a. May 6th – Approved with grammatical changes

Discussion Items

1. Annie Murphy – Spokane Regional Domestic Violence Coalition
 - a. Spokane Regional Domestic Violence Coalition works across systems with robust conversations with a variety of stakeholders
 - b. During Stay Home order there has been a lot of concern that vulnerable individuals will not be able to access appropriate community services. Agencies are still serving survivors but in a different way. There is a concern with underreporting.
 - c. Community needs to advocate that COVID 19 money be spent to impact community and thinking ahead on childcare needs and getting upstream to address domestic violence and child abuse.
 - d. Chair Kissler requested materials to be able to share in community as a resource.
 - e. SRDVC is partnering with agencies to ensure services are provided to all including LGBTQ and youth.
2. Katie Horvath – Spectrum Center
 - a. Queer organization working to open LGBTQ community center in Spokane. Agency has received funding and should be able to open in 2020.
 - b. Community center will provide a gathering space to share art and cultural resources.
 - c. Population is disproportionately impacted by negative outcomes and center will provide resource to prevent isolation.
 - d. Chair Kissler, Commissioner Archer and Commissioner Moore proposed a digital panel with Spectrum Center and EWU Pride Center during Pride Month.
3. Discussion of recent protests and statement

- a. Chair Kissler asked for any feedback to statements he issued over the weekend regarding protests.
 - b. Chair Kissler brought forward a formal statement drafted by Commissioner Moore. Commissioners discussed statement providing feedback and changes.
 - c. Commissioner Harrison moved and Commissioner Archer seconded to accept statement for official endorsement. Statement passed and will be posted on social media and shared with officials.
4. Discussion of statement in support of Office of Civil Rights
 - a. Chair Kissler read statement in support of Office of Civil Rights. Commissioners agreed to keep statements on George Floyd separate from Office of Civil Rights separate. Commissioners discussed statement.
 - b. Commissioner Riley moved and seconded by Commissioner Harrison to approve statement. Statement passed and will be posted on social media and will be shared.
 5. Commissioner Kissler reported CHHS is working to approve rental assistance fund and RFP should be released by the end of the week.

The Next Human Rights Commission Meeting scheduled July 2, 2020. Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.