

Spokane Human Rights Commission November 4, 2021

Meeting Minutes: Called to order at 5:37pm

Land Acknowledgment

Public Comment: Ivan Urnovitz- Suggest the commission use a more positive approach. Wants to retain the statue but provide new plaques that completes the story (healing).

Pui-Yan Lam- asking for The Commission to approve the resolution in support of the proposal for an Office of Civil Rights, Equity and Inclusion.

Naghmana Sherazi- support for the hiring of City's Civil Rights Coordinator. Wants The Commission to adopt the proposal and discussed the need for an office and make it a permanent part of the City's budget.

Ping Ping- was a part of the writing group of the proposal and believes that the city needs an office and urges the commission to adopt resolution so that many marginalized community members can truly feel at home

Dean Lynch- spoke on support of adopting proposal and resolution for Office of Civil Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Katy Sheehan- been on the civil rights taskforce from the beginning. Excited for the amount of community involvement in this proposal

Kate Bitz- we are taking on this task as a city at time where we're seeing some real challenges. People have lost trust in our institutions. Believes that a fully staffed office is exactly what our city needs.

Commission Briefing Session:

Commission Members Present: Lance Kissler, Hayley Harrison, Jac Archer, Anwar Peace, Brennan Schreibman,

Commission Member Not Present: Abigail Baker, CM Wilkerson

Community Members Present: Alex Gibilisco City Council Staff, Jerrall Haynes CR Coordinator, Anne Martin, William Aal, Wes Anderson

October 2021 Minutes approved with changes (Item 6- note that no action was taken, Public Comment member name Nicolette Ocheltree)

Discussion Items

1. Chair reports attached to the meeting packet
 - a. Learned for Mayors office that there are two candidates for final vacancy
 - i. Still actively recruiting

- ii. No progress on the three candidates that were moved forward for previous at-large positions
 - b. Received call about someone not being able to pay the pet boarding bill
 - i. Forwarded them to other resources as this situation does not fall under Title 18
 - c. Made a few more Facebook posts
 - i. Tennent information
 - ii. Rental assistance
 - iii. Law clinic
 - d. Questions regarding report
 - i. Commissioner Archer- are you able to get names of two people who applied (Lance will follow up with applicants first)
 - e. Budget
 - i. Will have updates for two sponsorships (\$1,000) ea
 - ii. Business card expense
 - iii. Housing expenditure
 - iv. Commissioner Archer- potential expenditures for Courageous Conversations
- 2. Office of Civil Rights Equity and Inclusion
 - a. GSP's Proposal
 - i. Wants to make sure that the office has some autonomy
 - ii. Commissioner Archer- will be abstaining due to conflict of employment
 - iii. Commissioner Schreiberman- what happens after the investigation is done in this proposal
 - 1. Katie Sheehan- would file official complaint after investigation or pass it off to a legal enforcement body
 - iv. The work is for Jerrall to find the enforcement piece
 - v. Motion- Commissioner Archer, Second- Commissioner Hayley (vote passed unanimously with one abstention)
- 3. Resolution regarding Office of Civil Rights, Equity & Inclusion
 - i. Motion- Commissioner Peace (with proposed changes), Second- Commissioner Harrison (vote passed unanimously with one abstention)
- 4. Resolution regarding Historical Landmarks
 - a. Add sentence that includes working with Civil Rights Coordinator
 - b. Motion- Commissioner Archer, Second- Commissioner Harrison (vote unanimously passed)
- 5. Bylaws Updates
 - a. Chair shared logic behind the changes being proposed
 - b. Motion- Commissioner Archer, Second- Commissioner Archer (vote passed unanimously with one abstention)
- 6. Election of Officers & Committee Leads
 - a. Commissioner Harrison nominates Commissioner Kissler for Chair (Second by Commissioner Schreiberman)- vote passed unanimously
 - b. Commissioner Peace nominates Commissioner Harrison for Vice Chair (Second by Commissioner Schreiberman)-vote passed unanimously
 - c. Commissioner Archer nominates Commissioner Schreiberman for Secretary/Treasurer (Second by Commissioner Kissler)-vote passed unanimously
- 7. Subcommittee Update
 - a. Human Rights Awards
 - i. Winners identified (Date November 6th at 6pm)

ii. Will bring forward resolution to acknowledge winners

b. Pride Booth acknowledgement

The Next Human Rights Commission Meeting scheduled Thursday, December 2nd 2021 at 5:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.