

# SHRC Meeting

06 JUNE 2024 / 5:39 PM- 7:31PM / CITY COUNCIL

## Attendees

**COMMISSIONERS:** Anwar Peace, Maria Hernandez-Peck, Livia Koh, Alex Knox, Kurtis Robinson, Brennan Schreibman

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Councilmember Navaratte + Staff, OCREI Civil Coordinator

Land Acknowledgement

## Public Comment

N/A

Consent Agenda (Chair's Report included)

## Statements

Commissioner Knox gives Pride Month Proclamation for the continuation of equality for the LGBTQ+ community and recognizing the LGBTQ+ Community

- Pride Proclamation approval motioned and passed

Chair Peace recognizes the federal holiday of Juneteenth

## Agenda

### The Black Lens

Natasha Hill speaks on the Black Lens, a newspaper focused on the news, events, people, issues and information of importance to our region's Black community.

- originally founded by Sandy Williams to focus on Black voices in Spokane
- working to focus on the local community in the media
- discusses new board of the Black Lens :  
<https://www.blacklensnews.com/stories/2024/apr/29/meet-the-board-the-faces-behind-the-black-lens/>
- discusses necessity of emphasizing underrepresented voices

- working with Comma Journalism, the Spokesman, to share resources
- working on print delivery for subscriptions, increasing distribution in the future
- [editor@blacklens.com](mailto:editor@blacklens.com) can be emailed if one is interested in contributing

Emphasizes the need for diverse voices and discusses how the Black Lens is promoting diverse voices

## Juneteenth

President of the NAACP Lisa Gardener presents on Juneteenth, the day slavery was officially ended in the United States

- June 19th, 1865
- Juneteenth celebrates the freedom of all people in America
  - Frederick Douglass quote "...This Fourth Jul is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn."
- 13th + 14th Amendment discussed: slavery outlawed (save for criminal punishment) + equal protections under due process
- What is Freedom to the Black Man?
  - in the wake of the Civil War, various acts of discrimination towards Black people (segregation, lynching, etc.) continued on
- video on Juneteenth: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8BSYy-ePv0>
- took until 2021 to make Juneteenth a federal holiday
- discusses the need for Black exceptionalism
- Gardener wrote article in Black Lens about the meaning of the Juneteenth flag: <https://www.blacklensnews.com/stories/2024/jun/02/juneteenth-reflection-the-new-red-white-and-blue/>

Washington State Human Rights Commission meeting discussed

- collaboration to work towards resolving community issues was emphasized

## Events

Juneteenth kickoff event at the MLK center June 13th

Pillar Awards June 14th Fox Theater 6pm

Saturday, June 15th Juneteenth celebration at MLK

- father's day brunch at SCC

Juneteenth Community Celebration at Grant Park starting at 11am

- Spokane Indians will do rendition of King Karl night to celebrate Karl Maxey

upcoming events from NAACP: Challenging the Narrative

## Committee Updates

- Whole Commission: Pride booth organization
  - Schreibman, Robinson, Knox, Peace tabling
- Executive Committee: budget issues resolved
- Outreach Committee: Pride organized
- Civic Impact Committee: meeting with director of OCREI to look at work plan goals + legislation + partnerships

Commissioner Hernandez-Peck mentions Frontier Behavioral Health's new CEO, Kelli Miller

Commissioners Robinson and Peace mention the upcoming Police Chief Forum on June 27th at the Central Library 5:30-7:00pm