



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Meeting Summary
March 9, 2022

PARTICIPANTS:

Board Members Present:

Angelo Arredondo, Chair; Krista Gallagher, Vice Chair; Bonnie Davidson; Susan McNaught; Kelsey Murray; Cathy Ostrand-Ponsioen; David Rheinholdt;

Board Members Absent:

Leah Brooks; Amelia Knight; Oni Marchbanks; Tricarico Schwartz

Staff:

Gretchen Bennett; Lt. Debra Aguilar

Guests:

Lynelle Wilcox; ASL Interpretation Team Hamadi Jackson

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Review of Agenda

The You Tube channel transmission/recording was noted. Chair Arredondo called the meeting to order and welcomed the group. Introductions were shared. Chair Arredondo spoke at a recent City Council meeting, providing updates on HRC work.

2. Public Comment

Lynelle requested follow up regarding a person who was attacked and who is unsheltered. She spoke about the City's Legislative Committee, the Commission's Equity Ask for diversity in its committees, and suggested an additional recommendation be made from HRC specifically about having female representation on the Legislative Committee, noting it is all male despite lady interest. Commissioner Davidson inquired about Councilor Nordyke, and it was clarified she does not currently serve on the committee.

3. Consent Calendar

Commissioner Murray motioned to approve the consent calendar which consisted of the agenda and meeting minutes; Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Action and/or Discussion Items:

a. Bias Crime and Incident Report: Lt. Aguilar reported no new crime reports and three new incidents.

b. Complaints Report: Gretchen reported no new situations and provided an update on the complaint from the previous month. Chair Arredondo asked about the Marion Square Park;

Gretchen provided information. Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen spoke to the Awareness Task Force goal of expanding education related to people who are unsheltered.

c. Demographic Data: The Commission revisited the demographic data collected through the survey of members of boards and commissions. The objective was to discover recommendations. Ideas included:

- the Awareness Task Force could share openings via the email distribution list, as it reaches diverse audiences,
- would a single point of contact assist? Gretchen noted we do have one of sorts now, in the Mayor's Office, but the specific liaisons have richer detail.
- can there be more visibility? Commissioners observed they stumble upon the openings by accident.
- can the web page be less intimidating? Add one page with short descriptions of each board or commission.
- can the opportunity be sent to high schools to reach more youth? Career and learning centers could be specific points of contact.
- can the reply generated, once one completes the application, offer a warm response and a timeline to expect?
- could the openings be listed on a city email,

The group again noted the public comment of the Legislative Committee lacking gender diversity.

5. Task Force and Project Updates:

- a. Awareness:** Chair Ostrand-Ponsioen reported plans to meet with the university professor to overview plans for the next discrimination survey. The group also discussed how to make use of the City's communication outlets, and plans a communication related to Transgender Day of Visibility. There is a tabling opportunity at the Radical Free Market.
- b. Equity Asks Report:** Gretchen noted the link to the Council report regarding DEI. She discussed the report to Council related to mobile crisis response teams and the Flight Teams anticipated from the Psychiatric Crisis Center. She noted staff strategic workshops planned.

6. LGBTQIA+ Intersectional Rights: Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen noted the team is at work on the Safe Spaces Program. More outreach and implementation was discussed. Lt. Aguilar is happy to help on the program. Re: the decal, if funds aren't committed for multiple years, how does that work with program implementation? Will the timeline need to be delayed?

7. Staff Updates: Gretchen asked the group to be thinking about preferences, should an option to return to in-person or hybrid meetings be made available. She noted she will be on vacation March 18-28. Chair Arredondo asked about Core Response Training progress; Gretchen was unable to progress on this goal during the past month.

8. Calendar of Events: Noted.

9. Member Remarks and Announcements:

None shared.

Minutes respectfully presented by staff Gretchen Bennett.