

**Human Rights Commission
Business Meeting
Minutes**

January 18, 2018

Commissioners Present: Lorenzo Cervantes, Kelsey Fischer, Maria Villalpando Ramos, Brad Bates, Rebecca Stith, Kim Tosch, Jennifer Vasilez, Areum Youn, Natalie Collins, Allen Ratcliffe, Gina Fonseca Crsioni, Lisa Snyder

Commissioners Absent: Jen Haggard

City Staff Present: Andreta Armstrong, M’Balu Bangura, Marissa Vining, Ann Martin

Chair Stith called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

Roll Call was taken. A quorum was present.

Agenda Approval

Chair Stith called for a motion to approve the HRC Business Meeting Agenda of December 21, 2017. The motion was made, seconded, and carried.

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the HRC meeting minutes for December 21, 2017.

New HRC Business

- A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve proposed policy and procedures for written statements
- A motion was made, seconded, and carried to add “source of income” as a protected class to TMC 1.29
- Commissioner Bates requested all Commissioners choose their first and second preferences for Committee and Task Force assignments. Commissioners will be notified at the retreat of their committee assignments. Committees will need to select a chair prior to the March HRC meeting.

Chair’s Report

- Commissioner Stith will be absent for 3 weeks in February, Commissioner Bates will be acting Chair.
- The Immigrant and Refugee Commission and the deportation fund has been created, given \$50,000 to start.
- The new Commission will be expected to meet regularly with the Human Rights Commission and the Commission on Disability.

- Planning Commission's interim regulation language re: Northwest Detention Center incorrectly refers to NWDC as a correctional facility. Planning Commission will be recommending two different definitions to City Council.
- Commissioner Stith spoke at City Council meeting to welcome the new Mayor.

Commissioner's Report

- Commissioner Bates has been working with Andreta Armstrong on the retreat. He was able to visit the location. Sheely Mauck will be facilitating the retreat.
- Commissioner Bates reported HRC being asked to present to the Community and Safety Vitality Commission in March re: progress & accomplishments in 2017, as well as plans for 2018.
- Commissioners Bates and Stith met with Dexter Gordon and two other members of the Community Healthcare Alliance (including Commissioner Ratcliffe) met at the University of Puget Sound to discuss issues relevant to the Charity Care Task Force.

Staff Report

- A. Armstrong asked all Commissioners to contact her with any meal restrictions or accommodations for the retreat.
- A. Armstrong addressed Commissioner Stith's concerns about missing meeting minutes online. A. Armstrong will make sure updated minutes are available online.
- A. Armstrong provided a FY2017 statistical report re: Employment, Public Accommodation, Housing, and Landlord Tenant cases. Commissioner Stith requested a more detailed report and A. Armstrong agreed to provide the additional information during the March HRC meeting.
- C. Elder explained her role as Landlord Tenant Coordinator.
- M. Vining reported the RACK cards (English) have been finished and printed.
- A. Armstrong will email details of T-Town event to Commissioners.
- M. Bangura reported outreach opportunities.
- Case Closures – Employment and Public Accommodations
 - HRC 4775 Andersen v. Bates College (Conciliation Agreement). There was discussion about the merits of the complaint, for which OEHR found reasonable cause, how damages are calculated and negotiated by OEHR, and the need to update the conciliation-agreement template. Commissioner Stith and Andreta Armstrong discussed the possibility of Commissioner Stith's meeting with staff about updating the template's wording. Andreta will follow up about making this happen. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve settlement agreement
 - HRC 4812 Merrell v. Mary Bridge Children's Health Center.
 - HRC 4842 Naomi Wilson v. Tacoma Public Schools.
- Case Closure- Housing
 - HRC 4825 Nguyen v. Mercy Housing (Pre-Finding Settlement Agreement). A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve settlement agreement.
 - HRC 4837 FHCW v. Elliott (Pre-Finding Settlement Agreement). A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve settlement agreement.
 - HRC 4838 FHCW v. Elliott (Pre-Finding Settlement Agreement). A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve settlement agreement.

Public Comment

- There was no public comment.
- Commissioner Stith noted that going forward, members of the public will be permitted to speak between item 4 (Approval of the Minutes) and item 5 (New Business), and that public comments will be limited to two (2) minutes per speaker and to Business Meeting agenda items.

Adjournment

Business Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.