

Human Rights Commission
Business Meeting
Minutes

January 16, 2014

Chair Schuneman called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Preston Anderson, Alice Currie, Olgy Diaz, Richard McGrue III, Nicci Montgomery, Darion N. Reese, Fred Schuneman, Lucas Smiraldo, Larry Strege, Christopher Winters

Commissioners Absent: April Sanders, John Wallace

Staff Present: Tansy Hayward, Marya Gingrey, Tina McLeod, Vicki Walker

Roll Call was taken. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the HRC meeting minutes for December 19, 2013.

Agenda Approval

Chair Schuneman called for a motion to amend and approve the HRC Business Meeting Agenda to include two items in "Other Business", and move the balance to the February meeting. A motion to approve the amended January 16, 2014, Human Rights Commission Business Meeting Agenda was made, and seconded, followed by a discussion of the topics moving to February. The motion carried.

Other Business

Chair Schuneman explained that we did have a motion to make Restorative Justice an item for the February Study Session. Additionally, the Commission needs to talk about 1.29 impacts and the direction we want to go. One issue is Reasonable Cause, and the second is the recommendation from the Disability Commission to reduce the number of people necessary to meet regulations. We are also going to discuss what we have learned about petitions for reconsideration, and drafting procedures. A motion was made and seconded to move Restorative Justice to the March Study Session Agenda and cover the 1.29 issues with the February agenda. The motion carried.

New HRC Business

Postponed to February Meeting

Chair's Report

Postponed to February Meeting

Miscellaneous

Commissioner Smiraldo mentioned an open microphone event he is starting at the B Sharp Coffee House that occurs the 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00, and that he is sharing a poem at the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration at the Convention Center on Monday.

Along with Commissioner Smiraldo, Commissioner Montgomery was awarded a Spark Grant to work in the community to develop a literary art scene in Pierce County/Tacoma, and invited Commissioners to think of people who might be interested in participating.

Commissioner Smiraldo spoke of his Spark Grant for an audio anthology that is titled "The Spirit of Place", and possible Commissioner Participation.

Commissioner's Report

Postponed to February Meeting

Director's Report

Director Hayward mentioned that the HRC will have two new members after their Council Appointment. There were nine applications for three seats which speaks to the desire in the community to join in with the direction the Commission is taking.

February 27, there is a potential joint meeting with the HRC and the Public Safety, Human Services and Education Committee to help create better alignment with Council Objectives.

The City Council has a work session on February 21, and will approve their 2014 strategic objectives, and if any changes, Ms. Hayward will discuss with the Commission. The City Council is considering a new strategic planning process for Tacoma. The last one was done in the early 2,000's or late '90's. It is likely to be a very community based process thinking about the long term vision for the city, and a lot of that will support planning for the 15-16 budget.

Director Hayward informed the Commissioners of the city's new P.A.S. S. initiative, and our new 311 phone number to the Customer Support Center and City QA. As of February 3rd, floors above three, in the Municipal Building will be closed to anyone without a security badge, and visitors will need to check in with Security to confirm appointments, and pick up a temporary badge.

Staff Report

Marya Gingrey, referring to the Report of Case Closures, stated that during this period, we closed one case as No Reasonable Cause Findings:

Housing Discrimination:

- HRC 4668 Mauricette v. Harbor View Manor ABHOW

Adjournment

Business Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Action Items:

None