

**Human Rights Commission
Business Meeting
Minutes**

February 19, 2015

Present: Alice Currie, Nicci Montgomery, Richard McGrue III, Joyce Miles, April Nimick, Darion N. Reese, Fred Schuneman, Suzanne Skaar, Lucas Smiraldo, Christopher Winters

Absent: Preston Anderson, Olgy Diaz, April Sanders, Larry Strege

City Staff: Marya Gingrey, Tina McLeod, William Yi

Chair Schuneman called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

Roll Call was taken. A quorum was present.

Agenda Approval

Chair Schuneman called for a motion to approve the HRC Business Meeting Agenda of February 19, 2015. The motion was made, seconded, and carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the HRC meeting minutes for January 15, 2015.

New HRC Business

- A motion to adopt the revised Human Rights Champion Award Selection Protocols as presented with the addition of language of “and/or designee” after any reference to the “Chair” was made and seconded. Motion carried.
- A motion to postpone action on the 1st Quarter Human Rights Champion Award nominations until March 2015 was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Chair’s Report

- Commissioner Strege has resigned, effective February 28, 2015.

Commissioner’s Report

- Commissioner Smiraldo reported that there will be an event titled Live at the Oracle at B Sharp Coffee House on Friday, February 20, 2015 at 7:00 PM with Franchesska Berry.
- Commissioner Winters reported the following:
 - City Council passed the Paid Leave Ordinance as amended on January 27, 2015.
 - Senate Bill 5633 is currently being discussed, which can create a coordinator position in the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs that can assist transitioning military folks with employment.

- Vice Chair Reese reported that the State Legislature is discussing Paid Sick and Safe Leave in the House of Representatives committee.
- Commissioner Montgomery reported that there will be an orientation for the event titled City of Destiny Poetry Slam on March 28, 2015 at Write@253 for youth and teens.

Staff Report

Marya Gingrey

- The City of Tacoma passed the Welcoming Cities Initiative.
- Tacoma Human Rights received kudos from HUD for case processing by following procedures accurately and hailed as a model as how a FHAP agency can ask HUD to reactivate a case.
- City Council will hold their Work Session on Friday, February 20, 2015 for 2015 priorities.
- The City of Tacoma's 2025 Plan has officially been adopted and is available on the City website.
- Three sessions of Undoing Institutional Racism (UIR) for the Executive Management Team (EMT), Human Resources Department and other City staff was completed.
- The Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR) is finalizing their work plan.

Tina McLeod

- Human Rights are coordinating fair housing workshops for community members in the month of March.
- The Housing Justice Project will hold a housing rights panel on March 26, 2015 at 1:30 PM at Bates College, followed by a legal clinic.
- Attended the Fair Housing Law and Litigation Conference.

Public Comment

- None

Adjournment

Business Meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Action Items:

- Human Rights Staff:
 - Email/Mail commissioners information on City of Tacoma 2025.
 - Invite Pat McIntyre to a future Study Session to present information on SAGE.