

Human Rights Commission
Business Meeting
Minutes

September 18, 2014

Chair Schuneman called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Vazaskia Caldwell, Alice Currie, Olgy Diaz, Nicci Montgomery, Richard McGrue III, Fred Schuneman, Lucas Smiraldo

Commissioners Absent: April Sanders, Darion N. Reese, Christopher Winters, Christina Zinkgraf, Larry Strege

Staff Present: Tina McLeod, Vicki Walker, William Yi

Roll Call was taken. A quorum was present.

Agenda Approval

Chair Schuneman called for a motion to approve the HRC Business Meeting Agenda of September 18, 2014. Motion was made to amend agenda to move public comment before New HRC Business. The motion was made, seconded, and carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the HRC meeting minutes for August 21, 2014.

Public Comment

Whitney Brady of the grassroots organization B.A.D. (Build and Destroy) relayed concerns about the lack of accountability by the police department to the community; expressed that there is no place to take action; and wanted to empower the City's Citizens Review Panel with more tools and power to affect change.

New HRC Business

None

Chair's Report

- The annual HRC Retreat will be held on Saturday, October 4, 2014.
- The Race & Pedagogy Conference will be held September 25-27, 2014. The flyers for the Wage Theft workshop and Race: The Power of an Illusion workshop will be available at the conference.
- The Race: The Power of an Illusion workshop will be held on Saturday October 25, 2014. Chair Schuneman and Commissioner Caldwell will facilitate this workshop.
- The Wage Theft workshop will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2014.
- The Race: Power of an Illusion - Train the Trainer event will be postponed until further notice.

Commissioner's Report

- Commissioner Smiraldo stated that the Race & Pedagogy Conference will be held September 25-27, 2014.
- Commissioner McGrue expressed interest in engaging with the Citizen's Review Panel and getting more information about the Tacoma Police.
- Commissioner Caldwell expressed the desire in having more transparency and dialogue with the police and the community.
- Commissioner Currie talked about the history of Police Community Workers.
- A few Commissioners would like to meet with the Citizen's Review Panel before the end of October.

Staff Report

Tina McLeod

- Tina McLeod, referring to the Report of Case Closures, stated that during this period, we closed two housing cases as No Reasonable Cause Findings:
 - HRC 4699 – Grant v. Avamere Skilled Nursing
 - HRC 4705 – Harris v. K Street Apartments
- Under the HUD contract, Tina McLeod attended a training event at the John Marshall Law School for metrics of fair housing, looking at the social science of social justice.
- A community event titled Lock & Unload: A Community Conversation On Gun Safety will be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at Evergreen State College – Tacoma Campus.

Director's Report

- No report

Adjournment

Business Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.