

**Human Rights Commission
Business Meeting
Minutes**

February 18, 2016

Commissioners Present: Hermenia Jackson, Anita Latch, Richard McGrue III, April Nimick, Lucas Smiraldo, Darion Reese, Suzanne Skaar, Jay Thomas, Christopher Winters

Commissioners Absent: Alice Currie, Olgy Diaz, Nicci Montgomery

City Staff Present: Andreta Armstrong, Tina McLeod, Ann Chambers

Chair Smiraldo called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Roll Call was taken. A quorum was present.

Agenda Approval

Chair Smiraldo called for a motion to approve the HRC Business Meeting Agenda of February 18, 2016. The motion was made, seconded, and carried.

Approval of Minutes

There was no quorum, therefore no Business Meeting was held on January 21, 2016.

New HRC Business

- **OEHR Staffing Changes**
 - Andreta Armstrong reported that there have been some staffing changes in OEHR because of budgetary concerns and needs in OEHR. Introduced Ann Chambers, Office Administrator who would be providing support for HRC at this time. OEHR is looking to fill two positions – Civil Rights Investigator and Management Analyst I (MA1). Interviews have taken place for MA1 position and should be filed within a few weeks.

- **HRC Retreat Follow Up**
 - Discussion regarding top six priorities from HRC Retreat and adding #1-HRC Process and #2-Community Outreach to Business Meeting Agenda. Motion was made to add HRC process and Community Outreach to HRC Business Meeting agenda by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Reese, and motion carried. Subcommittees were formed for other priorities and are to meet once a month and report into business meeting.
 - Groups are as follows:
 - #1 HRC Process – Co-chairs: Commissioners Diaz and Thomas
 - #2 Community Outreach – Chair: Commissioner Latch

- #3 Gender/Labor Standards/Maternal Leave and #7 Transgender – Chair: Commissioner Skaar; Members: Commissioners Thomas, Diaz, Winters
- #4 Race: The Power of an Illusion – Co-chairs: Commissioners McGrue and Jackson; Members: Commissioner Winters and Reese
- #5 Wage and #6 Tribe – Chair: Commissioner Winters; Members: Commissioners Anita Latch and April Nimick

Chair's Report

- Chair Smiraldo reported that he will be cohosting Vibrant Schools story-telling event at B Sharp Coffee House, Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 6 pm.

Commissioner's Report

- Commissioner Winters reported that there will be a poetry session at B-Sharp Café on March 20, 2015 at 7:00 PM.
- Commissioner McGrue reported that he attended seminar on Micro aggressions in Tukwila.
- Commissioner Jackson reported that she will be facilitating Race Power of Illusion sessions starting in Vancouver on March 2, 2016.
- Commissioner Skaar asked how we can address interacting with the public so that they don't think it's falling on deaf ears (transparency).
- Commissioner Smiraldo asked about making a comment on behalf of the commission in response to methanol plant. Tina McLeod will look for boilerplate language and share. Commissioners Skaar and Winters to work on wording to commission.
- Commissioner Latch – CASA's taken in 70 and lost some. Later this month will be doing Annual Indian Lobby Day.
- Commissioner Winters asked about safety and security during public comment.

Staff Report

Andreta Armstrong

- Will address the concern raised in the public comment during study session.

Tina McLeod

- No fair housing cases closed.
- There were three new cases opened.

Public Comment

- There were two individuals who provided public comment.

Adjournment

Business Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Action Items:

None