

Human Rights Commission

Business Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2019

Commissioners Present: Michealea Lemons, Melvin Nobles, Jr., Sarah Lee, Natalie Collins, Allen Ratcliffe, Lisa Snyder, Taniesha Lyons

Commissioners Absent: Kim Tosch, Ronita Boullt, Rosita Castellano, Sarah Nunez, Sarah Rumbaugh, Julie Tran

City Staff Present: Andreta Armstrong, Wesley Taylor

Call to Order

Chair Lemons called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

A quorum was present

Approval of the September Business Meeting Agenda

- **Commissioner Ratcliff** moved to approve the agenda.
- **Vice Chair Nobles** seconded.
- **The business meeting agenda is approved.**

Approval of the August Study Session and Business Meeting Minutes

- **Commissioner Ratcliff** makes a motion to confirm the August minutes.
- **Commissioner Collins** noted a correction to having their name added to the list of present commissioners at the August 15, 2019 study session attendance. Commissioner Collins then moved to have this added and then moved to approved the n moves to approve with noted amendments.
- **Commissioner Ratcliff** moved to approve the minutes with the corrections.
- **Commissioner Lyons** seconded.
- **The motion passes.**

Public Comment

No public present

Chair Reports

- **LNG Hearing** – Chair Lemons felt the event was intense; the Puyallup tribe has coordinated a march to the event. There were a number of people speaking on both sides of the issue. People ranging from scientist, professors, and engineers all speaking with wealth of knowledge in this area.
- **South Sound Solidarity Social-** Event hosted by the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP). Lots of people who work with detainees at the Northwest Detention Center. Powerful and exciting.

- **Addressing homelessness in Pierce County** –Human services division, funding comes from HUD. Discussions around the various issues and topics have been discussed for around 18 years in Pierce County. Through discussion with others on the committee, the consensus feels that the plans are being rushed and not fully evaluated and look through the different channels. A plan is in the works towards being finalized in December, with a five year plan that will layout the continuum of care.
Staff Armstrong – Ms. Armstrong discussed how the landlord tenant rights started from issues that came from the new owners of the Tiki apartments. Ordinance for the tenants and developers to allow more time, and the city provided relocation funding. The permanent fix was to have a series of meetings with landlords and tenants, and what can both parties live with knowing the landlords are in the business of business, hopefully to be part of the solution towards the larger issues.
- **City Council Candidate Forum on Affordable Housing** – was also attended by **Commissioner Snyder**. Ms. Snyder mentioned her brother in law is running. Candidates were given questions before the forum. Candidates discussed issues around how we can appeal better to developers.

Commissioner Reports

None given.

New Business

- **Chair Lemons** – having been the chair for the past five months, Chair Lemons wants to know, what are other members of the Human Rights Commission are wanting to be involved in? What are the different areas the commissioners are looking for the commission to be involved with? Chair Lemons will present the question and ideas presented, by email, to fellow commissioners who were not able to attend the meeting.
- **Commissioner Lyons** – a conference, with training aspect. Race and pedagogy is a great model. Focus on education cultural diversity. Have some attention on policy making, how to have an equitable lens when making policies.

Staff Reports

No additional reporting

The Chair adjourns at 7:26pm.