

## **Human Rights Commission**

### **Business Meeting Notes**

**November 21, 2019**

**Commissioners Present:** Michealea Lemons, Melvin Nobles, Jr., Kim Tosch, Natalie Collins, Allen Ratcliffe, Lisa Snyder, Ronita Boullt, Taniesha Lyons, Sarah Nunez, Sarah Rumbaugh

**Commissioners Absent:** Sarah Lee, Julie Tran

**City Staff Present:** Andreta Armstrong, Wesley Taylor

#### **Call to Order**

Chair Lemons called the meeting to order at 6:53

#### **Roll Call**

A quorum was present

#### **Approval of the November Business Meeting Agenda**

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

#### **Approval of October Study Session and Business Meeting Minutes**

- **Chair Lemons** wanted to make a change planning commission and the housing task force and have this discussed during the commissioner report.
- **Chair Snyder** moves to approve the minutes.
- **Commissioner Ratcliff** seconded.
- **The motion passes.**

#### **Public Comment**

No public present

#### **Chair Reports**

- **Chair Lemons** – Discussion regarding commissioner term updates, provided clarification of when commission terms expires. The commissioner start and end of the positions will be February.
- **Commissioner Castellano, Rosita** - stepped down due to time constraints.
- Discussion took place regarding if Commissioners could alter or request shorter terms on the Commission. In addition to clarification when a new commissioner fulfills a vacant seat vs. a position previously vacated by a commissioner who did not complete their full term.
- A more in-depth clarification was also discussed for new commissioners, informing them of what the different projects are or what the particular task forces on the HRC are working on.
- **Commissioner Lyons** – presented the idea to have each task force give an explanation of what is being worked on to each of the new commissioners.

## Commissioner Reports

- **Committee & Task Force Updates**

- **Policy and Advocacy**

- Murder and missing indigenous people. Reached out to the Puyallup tribe and the human trafficking committee. Discussion of what can be done to collaborate with the HRC, if the HRC would be willing to network and invite stakeholders to the event. The next event will be held on May 5, 2020. A press release may be an idea to getting the word out for the event, since it will be held in a few months.
- Update on the removal of the term “Domestic Violence” from the local Tacoma Municipal Code related to public nuisance. An email was sent to the City of Tacoma staff regarding this, and still waiting to hear back from the city for a course of action to this discussion.

- **Racial Justice and Equity**

- Still working on scheduling final community conversation in 2020.
- Will be helping the Housing Task force. Discussion of what kind of support they will offer shall be discussed at the next committee meeting.

- **Housing Task Force**

- No committee chair yet. Holding first meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss what they would like to speak on at the joint meeting with the Planning Commission.
- **City of Tacoma Staff, Andreta Armstrong** – discussed the joint meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> and needing the names of all those who would be present.

## New Business

- **Nominations for Chair Positions:**

- Chair- Michealea Lemons (current chair) nominated
- Vice Chair- JR Nobles (current Vice Chair) continuing position
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair- unclear. Chair Lemons will check in with Sarah Lee and will send out further communication before December meeting.

- **Elections will be held in December**

## Staff Reports

- City of Tacoma Staff, Wesley Taylor reported out two Housing Pre-Finding Settlement cases:  
HRC # 4869 - Scott v. Peyton  
HRC # 4879 - Holm v. Ross

Three Employment cases were also brought to the Commissioners attention:

- HRC # 4875 - Lincoln v. EcoLube Recovery (No reasonable Cause)
- HRC # 4874 - Goodman v. DTG Recycling (No Reasonable Cause)
- HRC # 4883 - Jennifer Adams v. CHI Franciscan (Withdrawal)

**Commissioner Collins** moved to approve the Pre-Finding settlements, **Commissioner Snyder** seconded.

Pre-Finding Settlements, approved.

**The Chair adjourns at 7:40pm.**