



City of Portland, Oregon
Kyle Busse, Chair
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Meeting Minutes

Date: October 2, 2013 **Time:** 4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Location: 421 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 500 Portland, OR

Commission Attendees: Kyle Busse, Allan Lazo, Deyalo Bennette, Aimee Samara, Mayra Arreola, Mology Good, Sonji Young, Abdul Majidi, Ashley Horne, Sam Sachs, Emanuel Price

Staff Attendee: Jeff Selby

Approval of Minutes and Agenda / Welcome and Gathering

- Chair Kyle Busse called the meeting to order at 4:10.
- MOTION BY MOLOY GOOD: Approve meeting minutes.
SECOND: SONJI YOUNG
MOTION PASSED
- MOTION BY MOLOY GOOD: Approve meeting agenda.
SECOND: AIMEE SAMARA
MOTION PASSED
- Attendees and commissioners introduced themselves.

Office of Equity and Human Rights Update – Dante James

- Dante congratulated the new Human Rights Commissioners.
- He updated the HRC on his involvement with observing Portland Police Bureau Scenario-based Training. Three scenarios were graded and one was not—the scenario which deals with engaging people with mental health issues. Dante raised his concern to the training officer that the mental health scenario should be graded—he received a commitment that in future sessions, the scenario would be graded. Overall, Dante thought the training was good, especially while dealing with new messages, such as: Disengagement is a legitimate response when a police officer encounters someone with a mental health issue.

Independent Police Review Report – Constantin Severe, IPR Director

- Constantin introduced himself and IPR Assistant Director, Anika Bent-Albert.
- He gave background on the IPR and noted that his team reviews, investigates, and accepts commendations for the Portland Police Bureau. He also handed out a copy of the 2013 IPR Proposed Police Accountability Reforms.

- IPR wants to partner with agencies like the CPRC and HRC. He mentioned that he would like to see HRC and CPRC members attending IPR's Citizen Review Committee Meetings (CRC).

Portland Housing Bureau – Daniel Ledezma, Manager of Equity, Policy and Communications

- Daniel presented the PHB Housing Affordability Mapping Project that will guide PHB and partners in allocating resources more equitably. The goal is to give communities of opportunity greater access to amenities, preserve affordability, and promote fair housing. The maps and findings can be found here: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/phb/62983>

Community Discovery Committee – Aimee Samara

- The CDC is working on the Roundtable Report to the community; they are awaiting input from committee leaders. Once that input is received, the reports could be delivered within a few days.
- Mayra is going on maternity leave soon and the CDC is accepting new members.
- The Public Forum will be focused on Homeless Rights and will be held sometime in early 2014. The CDC will collaborate with HRTF on the event.

Executive Committee Elections

- Linda McKim-Bell was the only nominee for Vice Chair and there were no nominees for Chair.
- Aimee suggested a discussion to glean insight from the HRC members about why the positions of Chair and Vice Chair present a challenge.
 - Allan said one of the challenges is the absence of a leadership role from OEHR Staff.
 - Abdul said it would be helpful to have clear duties mapped out of how OEHR Staff supports HRC. It is ambiguous.
 - Jeff explained that the HRC operates independently under the umbrella of OEHR and that messaging should come from the HRC, not City Staff. That way, there is no expectation that OEHR and HRC messaging must always be in agreement.
 - Ashley said her challenge was not commitment, but rather time. She recommended delegating more responsibility to committees and/or possibly moving to a meeting every two months.
 - Moloy said he does not think the new processes affect interest in the Chair/Vice Chair positions.
 - Sam said that leadership is important, but he's new and would like to better know the playbook before assuming a leadership role.
 - Sonji said that new commissioners should witness what HRC does—to look and learn. She also wondered what the mentor process was for HRC.
 - Jeff added that fresh perspective is important to a leadership role in the HRC and that being a new commissioner could actually benefit the Commission.
 - Aimee said that the Executive Committee's responsibilities are many. Perhaps the HRC could look at allowing the Committee Chairs more authority to represent the HRC in press releases, etc.

- Abdul said the Committee Chairs should have authority to speak. The process should be decentralized. He added that he is available by phone to support the Chair.
 - Kyle volunteered to serve as Chair until the HRC January Meeting. He announced that Sonji is the new Chair of the Communications Committee and that will give her time on the Executive Committee to observe and learn. Perhaps in January, she might be comfortable being nominated for Chair.
- MOTION BY ALLAN LAZO: Nominate and vote for Kyle Busse to be elected to Chair with the understanding that he will resign at the January 2014 HRC Meeting.
SECOND: MOLOY GOOD
MOTION PASSED (Abdul Majidi and Aimee Samara abstained)
 - MOTION BY KYLE BUSSE: Vote for Linda McKim-Bell to be Vice Chair (term from November 1, 2013 to October 31, 2014).
SECOND: ASHLEY HORNE
MOTION PASSED
 - MOTION BY KYLE BUSSE: The HRC will hold a special session to discuss organizational structure on October 22, 2013 at 5:30, or October 15 if the OEHR space is not available.
SECOND: ALLAN LAZO
MOTION PASSED
Note: The meeting will be held on October 22 at the OEHR conference space.

Human Rights Commission Emily G. Gottfried Human Rights Awards

- The awards luncheon will take place at NW Natural on December 3rd.
- The Committee has asked Senator Avel Gordly to be the keynote speaker; they are awaiting a response.
- MOTION BY AWARDS COMMITTEE: Present the Outstanding Organization Award to MRG Foundation
MOTION PASSED
- MOTION BY AWARDS COMMITTEE: Present the Emerging Leader Award to Aaron Ridings
MOTION PASSED

Committee Updates

- Communications Committee
 - Sonji Young is the new chair of the committee.
 - This year's Human Rights Day event (put on by the United Nations Association USA Portland Chapter) will be on Tuesday, December 10th from 5:30 to 7:00 at the First United Methodist Church, Collins Hall. The theme for this year will be "Women United."
 - MOTION BY KYLE BUSSE: HRC to co-sponsor UNA Event

SECOND: AIMEE SAMARA

MOTION PASSED (Deyalo Bennette abstained)

- Lavaun Heaster from PCOD approached HRC to co-sponsor a casual networking event in November with New Portlanders Advisory Council and OEHR. Sonji Young and Jeff Selby volunteered to help organize if HRC voted to co-sponsor.

- MOTION BY MOLOY GOOD: HRC to co-sponsor networking event with PCOD

SECOND: AIMEE SAMARA

MOTION PASSED

- MOTION BY MOLOY GOOD: HRC to make a statement to City Council supporting initiative to move R2DToo to the Pearl District

SECOND: ASHLEY HORNE

MOTION PASSED (Abdul Majidi and Deyalo Bennette abstained)

Additional Information

- Food was provided by Hush Hush Café.