



City of Portland, Oregon
Kyle Busse, Chair
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503.823.2173 · www.portlandoregon.gov/oehr/hrc

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 8, 2014 **Time:** 4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

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

Commission Attendees: Sonji Young, Kyle Busse, Allan Lazo, Donita Fry, Deyalo Bennette, Damon Isiah-Turner, Aimee Samara, Mayra Arreola, Moley Good, Sam Sachs, Linda McKim-Bell

Commissioners Absent: Abdul Majidi, Ashley Horne, Emanuel Price

Staff Attendee: Jeff Selby

Approval of Minutes and Agenda / Welcome and Gathering

- Chair Kyle Busse called the meeting to order at 4:15.
- MOTION BY ALLAN LAZO: Approve meeting minutes.
SECOND: Linda McKim-Bell
MOTION PASSED (Donita Fry abstained)
- MOTION BY KYLE BUSSE: Approve meeting agenda as amended.
AMENDMENT: Kyle Busse (Switch order of HRC Chair Election, Nominating Committee Report, and OEHR Update)
SECOND: Moley Good
MOTION PASSED

Nominating Committee Report and Recommendation

- Moley Good stated that the committee interviewed five very qualified candidates.
- The committee recommends Rev. Kate Lore to be a new Human Rights Commissioner.
- MOTION BY NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Recommend to City Council that Kate Lore fill the HRC vacancy.
SECOND: N/A
MOTION PASSED

*NOTE: Donita Fry announced that February will be her last month as a Human Rights Commissioner and CPRC Chair.

Election of HRC Chair

- Sonji Young was elected HRC Chair (effective January 8, 2014) by unanimous vote.

*NOTE: Kyle Busse left the meeting for a personal appointment; Vice Chair McKim-Bell assumed meeting facilitation duties.

Office of Equity and Human Rights Update

- Bureau Director, Dante James, shared a review of his Annual Report presentation to Council.
- Sam Sachs asked Dante about the Mayor's hiring process of Deanna Wesson-Mitchell; Dante responded that all the Mayor's hires are political appointments.
 - Aimee Samara recommended discussing appointments in a sub-committee setting. She asked if the HRC Executive Committee had invited Mayor Hales to discuss the matter at an HRC Meeting.
- Dante thanked Linda McKim-Bell for her support at the Council meeting and Kyle for his leadership over the past year.
- Dante shared news about an open OEHR job position that will staff the HRC and Citywide Equity Committee. Jeff Selby will transition to communications and training duties at OEHR, but like all staff, will be available to the HRC on a case by case project basis.
- HRC will be involved in the interview process for the position.
- Sam Sachs thanked Dante for his work and said he appreciates, "the work you do and how you do it."
- Linda thanked Dante for the detailed Annual Report and helpful infographics on New Portlanders.

HRC Retreat Discussion

- The retreat is taking place on Saturday, January 11, at Linda's home.
- Aimee said Ashley hoped to be in attendance today, but she is trying to confirm presenters.
- Allan Lazo said it would be good for Human Rights Commissioners to develop their "elevator speech" about the HRC.
- Jeff Selby advised that each Commissioner should examine their availability for HRC out of respect for the work and to the others who are standing in line (and who commit).
- Aimee reviewed the Process Flow Chart (attached) and collected feedback.

Upcoming Events

- All OEHR Social: Friday, January 10 at Mekong Bistro
- MLK Day of Service: Sonji asked if anyone from HRC is participating
- March HRC Meeting in East Portland
 - Allan is scouting locations and would like some help from other HRC members.
 - The focus will be on housing and police accountability.
- Sonji will reach out to Deyalo Bennette to draft a letter to address the Majestic Realty/Trader Joe's development issue.

Committee Updates

- Communications Committee
 - HRC members will receive branded apparel.
 - An electronic newsletter is forthcoming. Committee chairs will forward information to Sonji.

Public Comment

- Kaon-Jabbar East El shared background on the Moorish Science Temple of America.