



City of Portland, Oregon
Sonji Young, Chair
421 SW 6th Avenue Suite 500 · Portland, OR 97204
503.823.2173 · www.portlandoregon.gov/oehr/hrc

Meeting Minutes

Date: June 4, 2014 Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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

Commission Attendees: Sonji Young, Kyle Busse, Allan Lazo, Ashley Horne, Deyalo Bennette, Damon Isiah-Turner, Aimee Samara, Rebecca Naga, Moloy Good, Chabre Vickers, Kate Lore

Commissioners Absent: Abdul Majidi, Linda McKim-Bell, Emanuel Price, Sam Sachs

Staff Attendee: Kenya Budd, Jeff Selby

Welcome and Gathering

- Chair Sonji Young called the meeting to order at 3:10.

HRC Commissioner Engagement

- Pulse check survey findings – trends
 - Many of the commissioners reported energy levels relative to their lives as high to moderate, while few reported low to moderate energy levels in their lives, commissioners reported moderate to low energy levels relative to their work as a member of the Commission.
- What's needed to increase and sustain engagement individually and collectively
 - Accountability, follow through, meet agreements, ownership,
 - Asking for help when it's needed, communication, taking on realistic workloads, knowing expectations and responsibility.

HRC Orientation Planning

- What content and process would be most helpful
 - History, welcome, mentoring, meeting 1:1 with each commissioner, understanding how OEHR is a resource, expectations as a commissioner, and key points review.
 - Deyalo, Sonji, Ashley, are willing to present/ facilitate. Kyle, Moloy and Aimee are willing to assist and consult.
 - The projected start dates for the orientation sessions are: Part I will begin in July and Part II will start in August.

Action Process Model

- **Time Frame Changes**
 - **Regular**- action lead indicates topic outline ten working days before next meeting.
 - **Rapid**- action lead indicates topic outline ten working days before the action is to take place.
- **Veto Guidelines**
 - HRC commissioners have the ability to veto an action as follows:
 - Regular response- within 48 hrs.
 - Urgent response-within 12 hrs.

Public Meeting Law Guidance for HRC

- Kyle Busse reviewed the guidelines.
- Allan suggested the commissioners get guidance from the city Attorney's office on social media and e-mail quorum violations.

Public Speaking Guidelines for HRC

- Kyle Busse reviewed the action chart and gave an intro to process guidelines and suggested that commissioners read the guideline in conjunction with the flow chart for familiarity.

Adjourn

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Commissioners Absent: Abdul Majidi, Linda McKim-Bell, Emanuel Price

Staff Attendee: Kenya Budd, Jeff Selby

Approval of Minutes and Agenda / Welcome and Gathering

- Chair Sonji Young called the meeting to order at 4:09.
- MOTION BY Aimee Samara: Approve meeting minutes.
SECOND: Kyle Busse
MOTION PASSED
- MOTION BY KYLE BUSSE: Approve meeting agenda as amended.
SECOND: Kate Lore
MOTION PASSED

Office of Equity and Human Rights Update

- Bureau Director, Dante James, welcomed newly nominated commissioners (Chabre Vickers, and Rebecca Naga) and new staff member (Kenya Budd).
- Dante shared the news that Title II and Title VI personnel will move to OEHR in July and announced the project in which the Transition Plan will be placed for compliance by 2018. This will entail the installation of a tracking system for the purposes of assisting Title VI to become more visible to residents and community, therefore increasing reporting.
- Dante shared that the request for additional Administrative staff was not approved by Council.
- Dante shared statistics on homeless veterans for HRC's consideration.
- Dante announced that CEC is in the final stages of the Equity assessment and Plan pilot. He shared that 2 bureaus are slated to engage in the full assessment and plan creation, and 5 bureaus are set to complete various components of the assessment. He also stated that veteran status and disability status will be added next month to the OEHR's dashboard.
- Dante announced the Equity Initiative in conjunction with OEHR and the Mayor's office is coming in spring.
- Kyle Busse inquired about the recidivism program piloted in Philadelphia PA. Dante responded that the Philadelphia program offers a \$10,000 tax credit per year for those businesses hiring people released with felony convictions.
- Kyle and Deyalo stated that they are interested in participating in further work on this project.
- Dante announced the removal of the Criminal/convict statement from City job postings as a part of the "Ban the Box" initiative.

Welcome new Staff member and nominated Commissioners

- Rebecca Naga, comes to HRC from the Oregon Health Authority, she has passion for the work of human rights both professionally and personally. She is excited and ready to get engaged in the "real work."
- Chabre Vickers, from Big Brothers Big Sisters Columbia Northwest won the first Emerging Leaders Award at the first Annual HRC Human Rights Awards. Chabre stated that she is excited and looking forward to continuing her work of providing a voice for others in the community who have not been heard.
- Kenya Budd, comes to OEHR from private practice in mediation, facilitation and training. Kenya states that she is greatly anticipating the work of assisting and consulting HRC as it embarks on the good work and endeavors they have set as priority areas.
- 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.

City Council Communication

- Jeff shared the City Council’s communications opportunity for HRC to provide three minute testimony.
- Kyle shared that the Advisory Committee agreed that the HRC will provide one person per month to speak and he proposed that this be an expectation of each Commissioner.
- Sam offered to speak at Council and Kyle offered to let Sam speak the second month.
- Aimee posed the question of how will what is said at Council be formed and released. Kyle stated that the speakers at Council will follow the HRC Process for Action flow chart.

Private Prison Divestment Campaign

- Jamie Trinkle from ENLACE asked HRC to endorse the Private Prison Divestment Campaign with a letter and advise Council to support it.
- MOTION BY ALLAN LAZO: That Kate Lore be named ACTION LEAD, and that a letter be created in support of the Private Prison Divestment Campaign.
SECOND: Kyle Busse
MOTION PASSED

HRC Long term strategy

- The Executive committee recommended that the HRC focus on three core areas each year. This year, the areas will be: Community and police relations/police accountability, Housing rights, and Immigrant rights.

Committee Updates

- **CPRC**
 - The CPRC will nominate Sam Sachs for Chair in June and confirm in July. Allan, Damon Isiah Turner, and Maria Lisa Johnson testified before Council about the COPS Grant. Damon testified that he will neither apply for nor accept the paid consultant position associated with the grant.
- **Police Accountability Committee**
 - The committee continues to establish itself. An action was taken on the 9 year old girl’s controversial arrest which included sending a letter to *The Oregonian*, attending a community discussion and participating in a work group to inform policy changes to the juvenile custody procedures.
 - **Nominating Committee** MOTION BY NOMINATING COMMITTEE: That Rebecca Naga and Chabre Vickers’ nominations be approved by HRC and forwarded to Council for confirmation.
MOTION PASSED
- **Human Trafficking Taskforce**
 - HTTF is preparing to do a Public Service Announcement for television. The taskforce will be tabling the Latino Health Equity Conference on June 13th.

- **Housing Rights Taskforce**
 - HRTF will send a formal letter of invitation to community members to participate in the Fair Housing Council's Bus Tour on July 11-12, 8am-1230, location to be announced. Allan disclosed that he be in a volunteer role and will not receive his usual stipend for this tour sponsored by HRC. Contact Allan to reserve spaces on the tour. Ashley Horne shared that State funding for housing is down by 50%. She suggested that further research be done and potential response from HRC upon the sharing of those findings.
- **Communications Committee**
 - Sonji Young requested that HRC members who haven't done so, send a photo and bio to the Chair to be added to the website. Sonji shared that the Chair position on Communications Taskforce is open to interested commissioners. Sonji invited commissioners and their families and friends to join HRC in the Pride Parade on Sunday, June 15th.

Upcoming Events and Emerging Issues

- **Fall roundtable**
 - Allan is working with community partners; Sisters of the road, Portland Housing Bureau- Housing access and retention, and Home for everyone's coordinating board to continue planning the half day expo on bringing together ideas and projects for solving homelessness. June is slated as the assessment period and The Roundtable is set for Fall.
- July 2, 2014, 3-630 pm is the next scheduled meeting of the HRC.

Public Comment/ Announcements/Closing

- **Lavaun Heaster**
 - PCOD is presenting a panel discussion on Race, Disability, and Intersectionality on June 13th, 1200-130pm.
 - The ADA celebration, "What does it stand for" on July 26th, 2-5pm at the Matt Dishman Community Center.
- PCOD has created a video project, highlighting youth civic involvement. Deyalo along with youth from MET (Muslim Educational Trust) will be featured in the project.
- **Charles Johnson**
 - Hopes that CPRC will address the fact that PPB is top heavy, believes that HRC should have a broad view of human rights and partner more with communities with disabilities, as well as with Brad Avakian's office. Charles also stated that HRC should include communication with some of the non-mainstream publications when sharing press releases.
- Allan announced City Club's Friday Forum will be Part II, Efforts to End Homelessness.

Adjourn