



City of Portland, Oregon
Chabre Vickers, Chair
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503.823.2173 · www.portlandoregon.gov/oehr/hrc

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 2nd, 2016 Time: 4:17 p.m. – 6:34p.m.
Location: 421 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 500 Portland, OR
Commission Attendees: Chabre Vickers, Theresa Soto, Se-ah-dom Edmo, Marcia Suttentberg, Alisha Zhao, Allan Lazo via phone, Ashley Horne, Damon Isiah Turner
Excused: Audrey Alverson, Deyalo Bennette, Rebecca Naga, Daniel Franco-Nunez
Absent: None
Staff Attendee: Tatiana Elejalde, Judith Mowry, Areale Hammond

Welcome and Gathering

The meeting was called to order by Chair Vickers at 4:17 pm.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

February meeting minutes: Teresa moved, Damon 2nd, and motion was passed. March Agenda: Ashley moved, Teresa 2nd, and the motion was passed.

Chair's Statement

There was low attendance in the previous meeting (February). As a result, T. Elejalde created a roll call to assist with tracking absence, excused, and present Commissioners. Roll call will also help other Commissioners know when someone will miss a meeting and if they contacted staff prior to the meeting to explain their absence.

Chair Vickers thanked Joe Anybody for filming the HRC meetings and uploading them to YouTube. The videos are accessible to the commissioners and the public for further information or if they were unable to attend a meeting.

Director's Report by Judith Mowry

Dante is in Oakland and will return for the last three weeks in March.

Judith and other OEHR staff attended a Government Alliance of Race and Equity (G.A.R.E.) conference.

OEHR will host visitors from New Orleans within the next few weeks to discuss equity initiatives in the City of Portland.

Mayor Hales have been very interactive and supportive of the OEHR team. The Mayor is looking to add a tribal liaison position in the upcoming budget.

Judith encouraged Commissioners to invite the Mayor once a year to a HRC meeting. In doing so, the Mayor will see how his initiatives match HRC.

Ongoing Business

The tribal liaison position is on the Mayor's internal budget. There are two open budget meetings which Chair Vickers advised the Commission to participate in. The first budget meeting is April 5th from 6:30-8:30 at Wilson H.S. 1151 SW Vermont St. The second meeting is April 12th at Alice Ott M.S. from 6:30-8:30pm. The address is: 12500 SE Ramona St, Portland, OR 97236.

Chair Vickers proposed the HRC meeting be moved from 4-6:30pm to 5-7:30. Commissioner Marcia agreed with the time and thinks it would help with attendance. Commissioner Theresa thought it would be helpful. For Commissioner See-Ah-Dom, it would be an inconvenience due to child-care arrangements. It would also be an inconvenience for Commissioner Alisha due to family obligations. Commissioner Ashley is comfortable with either time. Commissioner Allen likes earlier time. Commissioner Marcia suggested 4:30-7:00pm. All Commissioners agreed in the moment, but will vote on the time in the next HRC meeting.

Public Comment

Kevin Martonick: Kevin believes refugees and immigrants are a local issue and should be remediated on a City level. Kevin spoke with Commissioner Salzman and according to Kevin, Salzman agreed that it was a local issue and he would pass a resolution if it were voted on by Council. Kevin also spoke with Diana Nunez (Office of Mayor Charlie Hales) and Kevin said Diana agreed to work with other City offices to move the resolution forward. Commissioner See-Ah-Dom agrees with the resolution and feels it is a great time to push this initiative.

Charles Johnson: Spoke regarding Guantanamo Bay detainees

Brandie Dieterle Delahoz: She applied for a commissioner position with HRC. She has had several conversations with people concerning barriers for immigrants and refugees. According to Brandie, Portland has a stringent process for immigrants and refugees. As a result, they receive minimum resources and assistance from the City. Human trafficking is also a large issue in Portland. As a commissioner with HRC, Brandie would like to reincorporate a human trafficking subcommittee within HRC.

Courtney Shannon: She asked to speak after the housing segment in the agenda. Chair Vickers accepted her request.

Administration of Justice

Retreat-Next Steps: Several bids were entered for the retreat. Resolutions Northwest was chosen by exec to facilitate the next retreat. Commissioners were asked if they also wanted to view the bids, those who do, shall sign a non-conflict of interest evaluator form. Commissioner See-Ah-Dom and Commissioner Teresa volunteered to review the proposals. Commissioner Teresa moved motioned to accept Resolutions

Northwest to facilitate the upcoming retreat, Commissioner Ashley second. The motion passed. April 16th and 23rd are possible dates for the full retreat.

Community and Police Relations Committee (CPRC) Update: Chair Vickers would like CPRC to be the pillar of relationship building between police and community for the City.

Community Oversight Advisory Board (COAB) Update: COAB has been working with NAYA regarding police use of force. NAYA is an organization that focuses on equality and opportunity for self-identified Native Americans in the City of Portland. There is an idea that the NAYA students could attend a HRC, CPRC, or roundtable meeting to present the work they are doing for police involvement with the Native American community.

It was suggested that strategies be implemented for the roundtable meeting with the public to prevent disruption (more information for roundtable will be released to the public).

Housing Rights

Housing Rights Subcommittee Updates by: There are 3 stages of homelessness: acute, moderate, and chronic. The plan is to use this information to raise awareness of homelessness and the variance within homelessness. Stories will be collected from homeless individuals to show how diverse homelessness is. Commissioner Teresa noted to consider accessibility for disabled individuals who are interested in accessing apartments for the homeless community.

Public Comment by Courtney Shannon: There are only 2 shelters downtown for homeless women and there are several barriers to attaining housing for them. In addition, she proposed a scenario for the Commission to consider: If someone has damage to their house due to a flood, fire, or hurricane, they are housed within 24 hours, however, someone who have been homeless for years remain on the streets.

Additional Committee Updates

Executive Committee: Executive Committee: Chair Vickers raised a comment of the budget for HRC and its timeline, which will be unraveled at the Administration of Justice retreat. A general HRC timeline for the budget will be offered and a review of where money should be allocated.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:34