

Human Rights Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 6th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Farrah Chaichi, Tag Khuri, Anna Petrov, Marilyn McDonald, Phil Nagel, Tom Steiwer, and Sheri Struk, City Council Liaison Lacey Beaty, City Staff Liaison Tsipora Dimant, and Police Captain Mike Smith, Mayor's Youth Advisory Board liaison Cameron Monfared

Excused: Commissioner Dana Lopez, Commissioner Jake Rutschman

Visitors/Guests: Jolene from the Beaverton Social Justice League

6:30 p.m. Call to Order and Roll Call/Introductions

6:31 p.m. Visitor Comments

- None

6:31 p.m. Communications from City Staff Liaison to the Commission

- Tsipora reported that an honorarium for the speaker at the Indigenous Peoples' Day (IPD) event would be allowed as long as it complies with city policy

6:33 p.m. Communications from Cpt. Mike Smith of the BPD

- Update on human trafficking in Beaverton. There are several cases ongoing.
- Discussion about a possible BPD/city awareness campaign for human trafficking
- There is a question about how DACA will be handled in local schools if the program is ended – too soon to say anything

6:54 p.m. Communication from City Council Liaison to the Commission

- City council recently held a roundtable discussion on the topic of homelessness in our community.
- Cpt. Smith clarified that the police response to homeless persons is first to assist and not to chase away or arrest if at all avoidable

7:13 p.m. Approval of June meeting minutes

- Approved as amended

7:15 p.m. Discussion regarding homeless camp on Western and resident email

- Councilor Beaty reports that some of the residents of the camp came to the last city council meeting
- Council linked them with a Valley Times reporter to help publicize their situation
- There isn't much more to be done right now. There are no plans to remove the camp.

7:30 p.m. Black and Brown Lives Matter resolution

- A draft of a resolution has gone through DAB
- Several commissioners feel that the language of the proposed resolution is too strong

- There is a question of whether HRAC can make its own resolution without Council – Councilor Beaty will look into this.
- One issue with the proposed resolution is that it makes policy, which the city does not do through proclamations
- Cpt. Smith offered a police officer’s take on the language of the proposed resolution
- Comm. Steiwer moved that Councilor Beaty take the resolution to discuss possible edits with staff and bring it back to HRAC. Seconded and approved unanimously.

8:03 p.m. Human Rights Award

- Several options for honorees were discussed. Comm. McDonald will bring more info next month

8:12 p.m. Subcommittees

- IPD – no update but Comm. Nagel to join the group in Comm. Rutschman’s absence
- Creative Expressions Contest (CEC) – art needs to be returned to students
- Cultural conversations – on Nov. 1 we will have a conversation at 7:30 entitled “Arabs of the Levant”

8:12 p.m. Reports from meetings/events attended

- Human Rights Council of Washington County

- Chair Chaichi reported that Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon has hired an immigration lawyer to provide services on a sliding scale in Hillsboro

- Diversity Advisory Board

- Discussed BLM resolution

8:46 p.m. Update on One Drive access

- No issues with new drive

8:50 p.m. Meeting adjourned