

Human Rights Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Moneer Afzal, Farrah Chaichi, Marilyn McDonald, Cameron Monfared, Phil Nagel, Jerome Sibayan, Miranda Summer, Tom Steiwer, and Kossikan Yawo. City staff Holly Thompson, Police Lieutenant Darren Fletchall, and Paolo Esteban.

Excused: Commissioners Laurel Grasmick-Black, Tag Khuri, and Stephanie Somanchi

Visitors/Guests: None

6:32 p.m. Meeting Called to Order

6:32 p.m. Public Participation

Noted on agenda. No one present. Item skipped.

6:33 p.m. May Minutes

The May 2018 minutes were approved with no changes.

6:35 p.m. Beaverton Police Department Update

Lieutenant Darren Fletchall shared updates on upcoming BPD events: Shred Event on Sat. June 9 from 8 am to 12 pm and a Car Seat Clinic on June 16 from 9 am to 12 pm. Lt. Fletchall announced BPD has a new PIO, Jeremy Shaw, who is very talented at social media. He started Why Wednesday this week – another new community engagement tool. He shared there was still time to apply for Citizen’s Academy in September.

6:40 p.m. City Update

Holly Thompson shared a few quick updates. First, plans were in place to start the process to increase the number of HRAC members to 13 for the next year. HRAC took a quick vote to indicate their support. The Commission confirmed moving their July meeting one week back, to July 11, due to the 4th of July Holiday.

Holly shared the city update. 1. The city’s Neighborhood Program won two national awards for NAC projects. 2. Summer Reading sign-ups began June 1 for kids, teens, and adults. 3. The city kicked off a placemaking matching grant competition and awarded five grants for new or expanded events in the downtown over the next 18 months.

6:55 p.m. City Council Liaison Update

No update. Councilor Beaty was unable to attend the meeting.

6:55 p.m. Picnic in the Park Outreach Ideas

HRAC had a discussion about the upcoming city picnics and confirmed they wanted to table. Staff suggested Commissioners utilize a prize wheel and ask trivia questions on human rights to engage the public about the work of the Commission. Staff presented some sample questions for the trivia wheel and asked for volunteers to develop the full set of questions. Phil and Marilyn volunteered. Members then volunteered to cover upcoming picnic dates. June 20 – Kossikan confirmed. Cameron and Phil – maybe, needed to confirm availability. Aug. 1 – Agreed

to skip picnic since falls on HRAC meeting night. Aug 2 – Phil confirmed. Farrah and Cameron – maybe, needed to confirm availability. Commissioners also discussed the need for good prizes for the contest.

7:12 p.m. Hiteon Elementary Follow-Up

Lt. Fletchall expressed regret over the insensitive remark made by a police officer at the training at Hiteon Elementary. He said there was no excuse and it had been a mistake. The department has strict protocols in place on internal investigations, but this officer had given permission for the Lt. to share with the group discipline had been involved. The officer was apologetic and took full responsibility. The Lt. expressed the department took the incident seriously and understood words mattered.

HRAC members asked questions about the training police officers receive on bias and Lt. Fletchall reviewed they have bias training at the academy plus additional training at the city. He also mentioned the city recently held equity trainings for all city staff. Commissioner Steiwer reiterated that teachers expressed disappointment more of an effort wasn't made to personally apologize to them directly versus to the school district administration. It was noted the officer did apologize in the moment, but suggested an individual apology to the signers of the letter would have been appropriate.

7:37 p.m. 70th Anniversary – International Declaration of Human Rights

HRAC discussed the 70th Anniversary coming up in December and having a display at the library again. Marilyn agreed to coordinate with the library on the display. It was suggested to have a speaker, perhaps Senator Merkley, to mark the occasion. Staff offered to reach out to the Senator's Office to see if he was available. HRAC discussed having a display of books again on human rights and to have fliers around the city to advertise. It was suggested to incorporate the Creative Expressions Contest winners and show some of their work. It was also suggested to have films shown at the Library Auditorium on human rights. Tom volunteered to research film options and report back to HRAC. HRAC also discussed getting booklets on human rights from the UN and Cameron and Kossikan offered to look into obtaining more booklets.

7:45 p.m. Washington County Coalition of Communities of Color Study

Holly announced we would have a speaker come to an upcoming meeting to discuss the study being released on June 12. HRAC is invited to attend the Washington County release event on June 18 at 10 a.m. at the city library.

7:55 p.m. Sub-Committee Time

HRAC members broke into their sub-committees to discuss items.

Good Governance Sub-Committee:

Reviewed a list of proclamation topics for the year and made recommendations on how they should be distributed. Members decided which ones HRAC should be lead on and suggested items that would be best covered by other groups. Staff agreed to coordinate with points of contact throughout the city to ensure the topics were covered and to report back to the sub-committee. The list below are what HRAC will take lead on preparing for City Council. Proclamations should be finalized for the first meeting of the month listed below and submitted to the City Recorder’s Office two weeks prior to the meeting. In practical terms, the HRAC should have the proclamation prepared the month prior and approved by the Commission to meet the City Council schedule.

| Topic | Celebration Month | Meeting Month HRAC must approve Proclamation to make City Council Schedule |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Black History Month | February | January |
| National Disabilities Month | March | February |
| Women’s History Month | March | February |
| Asian Pacific American Heritage Month | May | April |
| LGBTQ Pride Month | June | May |
| Indigenous People’s Day | October | September |
| Universal Declaration of Human Rights | December | November |

Discrimination Sub-Committee:

Discussed housing discrimination event in October. Will be an open house and resource fair. CDD would like input and assistance on the event. Emma Deppa from CDD will be at July HRAC meeting to discuss. Also there is an upcoming training on Fair Housing that HRAC members can attend.

The group also discussed people of color and police interactions. The group reviewed some stop information provided by staff. The committee discussed HRAC wants to help foster good relations with police. They would like to see a full list of activities that police are doing on community policing.

8:37 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

NEXT HRAC Meeting – Wednesday, July 11, 2018, 6:30 pm at Beaverton City Library Cathy Stanton Room