

# HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday, March 20, 2019 (6:30 - 8:30 p.m.)

E-Suites Training Rm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall – The Beaverton Building 12725 SW Millikan Way

Cameron (Chair): [ChairMonfared@gmail.com](mailto:ChairMonfared@gmail.com)

Present: Chair Cameron Monfared, Vice Chair Kossikan Yawo, Recorder Laurel Grasmick-Black, Commissioners: Taghrid Khuri, Tonia Cottrell, Jarrod Shaw, Dori King (substitute recorder), Tom Steiwer, Mercy Henderson, Moneer Afzal, Stephanie Somanchi, Paolo Esteban; Guest Speakers: City Councilor Cate Arnold, Majors Office Director: Abigail Elder; Members of the Public: Nadia Hasan

## AGENDA

6:30 - 6:32 Call Meeting to Order — Cameron Monfared, Chair

6:32 - 6:35 Minutes Approval

*February minutes approved by consensus.*

6:35 – 6:40 Public Participation

*Cameron introduced Nadia, a former Beaverton High School teacher and a current recruiter at NIKE. Nadia explained that she joined the group this evening to gain an understanding of what the Human Rights Advisory Commission does.*

6:40 – 6:45 City Update – Paolo Esteban, Staff Liaison

*Paolo offered these updates:*

*The Night Market is currently accepting applications for vendors. Paolo highlighted that the Night Market is one of the economic opportunities that came from the Inclusion Advisory Boards goal of providing economic opportunities for refugee and immigrant owned business. Advisory Board members are asked to promote vendors' applying.*

*Welcoming Week is scheduled from September 13th to September 22nd. The City is accepting Welcoming Week Mini-Grants applications. Letters of Interest are due May 3, 2019. Grants of up to \$1,000 will be given to projects that bring immigrant and U.S. born community members together. Advisory Board members are asked to encourage organizations and groups to apply.*

*We will review the Creative Expressions Contest entries at our next meeting and make selections.*

6:45 – 6:50 Council Update – Councilor Cate Arnold

*Councilor Arnold shared that the [Patricia Reser Center for the Arts](#) was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission. Abigail added that the groundbreaking is likely to happen in late 2019. Councilor Arnold said to look for additional information about the Center for the Arts in April 2019. The Chairperson for the HRAC commented that if we can raise tens of millions of dollars for the Center for the Arts how might we be able to raise a like or similar amount to fund housing people. Councilor Arnold pointed out that the funding for support of the homeless comes from Health and Human Services at the county level and the City recently added a staff member to work on homelessness. Councilor Arnold*

*stated that is painful to provide services and later take them away. The Chairperson responded that it is the role of the commission to push City Council on human rights policies.*

*Councilor Arnold stated that the City Council has established its priorities for the year.*

*These include:*

### **Community Partners**

- *Building strong relationships with local districts and working with partners to address issues of homelessness*

*Councilor Arnold feels that the City has good relationships with local districts including Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation Department, Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue Services, Beaverton School District, and the Water Systems. One connection to homelessness in these relationships is getting partners to waive fees. Councilor Arnold said, "One thing we are doing with the parks district is to work with affordable housing and it [fees] has to be repaid to the developer. We waive systems development charges ----- water, roads, etc. These go to the appropriate district affordable housing projects we waive the fee and ask partners like the Parks Department to relinquish their fee. "*

### **Public Safety**

- *Pursuing behavioral court and promoting emergency preparedness at the neighborhood level*

### **Stewardship**

- *Maximizing use of city-owned properties, including the Griffith Drive Building*
- *Preparing long-range budget plan for upcoming major projects and expenses*

### **Transportation**

- *Broadening the Capital Improvement Plan to include bike lanes, sidewalks, streetlights, and ramps*
- *Continuing to expand sidewalks with a whole-city approach*
- *Planning for and deploying new transportation technology*

*Councilor Arnold said the focus is on walking and 5G access in the city.*

*Abigail Elder added that these are the top priorities for the City Council and that the council also has a Thumbs Up List that includes continuing work like the city's equity plan.*

6:50 – 8:25 Issue Selection Activity

- History – 20 min – Pao and Cameron

*Each person in the group read a point on the Advisory Boards timeline to remind continuing members and educate new members about the boards origin and purpose.*

- Last years subcommittees – 5 min – Kossikan & Stephanie?

*Kossikan explained the purpose of the Good Governance Subcommittee and Stephanie explained the work of the Human Rights Education Subcommittee.*

- "Speed Round Goals" and Issue Selection Activity

*The group conducted a crowd-sourcing exercise offering goals for the commission.*

- Issue Selection Activity – 1 hour – Paolo

*The group established two subcommittees, one focused on education and one focused on access to housing. These groups met and established their purposes and intentions for the year. Human Rights Curriculum Group Members: Stephanie, Moneer, Kossikan, and Tag  
Housing and Houselessness: Tom, Dori, Laura, Tonia, Cam, Mercy and Jarrod*

8:25 – 8:30 Special Meeting Recap, Cameron Monfared

*Cameron reviewed the meeting on March 13th where each person present had the opportunity to share their story and how powerful this was for the participants.*

8:30 Adjourn

**HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION** [www.BeavertonOregon.gov/HRAC](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov/HRAC) Paolo Esteban, Equity Specialist,  
503-526-2439, [Pesteban@BeavertonOregon.gov](mailto:Pesteban@BeavertonOregon.gov)

ADA Notice: This information is available in large print upon request and assistive listening devices or sign language interpreters are available at any public meeting with five days advance notice.

#### Additional Notes:

In the past couple of years the role has shifted from event planning to writing resolutions  
Cameron suggested that the active role HRAC has had should continue  
Stephanie said our role is to push things forward and to work collaboratively with council  
Paolo “We need to struggle within the walls to work together so people outside these walls can benefit.”

#### 2019 Subcommittees

##### **Good Governance**

Kossikan

Goal use city resources to benefit everyone

The School District partnership needs some work

Inviting Sho & Don Grotting maybe?

How is the city implementing the CCC report?

H/R report about complaints

##### Anti-Discrimination Subcommittee

Stephanie

Getting into schools and talking about the origins of human rights

The group did the 25/10 exercise to offer priorities for the commission works

Items that scored 20's:

- Human Rights in the school

- Understand that each human has an innate value [human rights]
- Continue to program that we began last year at speak to at least 2 classrooms.
- Taghrid suggests asking questions to find out what students are thinking

#### Good Governance

- Implement Coalition of Communities of Color recommendations
- Kossikan wrote this one and said we want to consider the report as we make our priorities
- Specific research (Taghrid)

#### Housing and Homelessness

- Community resource center
- Winter shelter for youth
- Consider to ensure that families shelters are available
- Offer shelters that are open and accepting spaces for transgender youth

18 points

Engage the residents in understanding the impact of houselessness on people

17 points

Police and community relations.