

Draft Seattle Human Rights Commission Meeting begins at 6:04p

Intros (Present):

1. Erika Chen (Appeals Chair)
2. Ty Grandison (SHRC Co-Chair)
3. Marta Idowu (SOCR Liaison)
4. Liz Pachaud (SHRC Co-Chair)
5. Rebekah Fonden-Covington (SHRC Commissioner)
6. Aaron Oravillo (SHRC Commissioner)
7. Jackie Turner (SHRC Co-Chair)
8. Jessica Bhuiyan ((SHRC Commissioner))
9. Robel Mulugeta (SHRC Commissioner)
10. Claire Guilmette (SHRC Commissioner)
11. John Page (Office of Civil Rights)

Ty motions to approve the September minutes, seconded

- Unanimously approved

Commissioner Updates:

- One open seat that the Commission can fill automatically, wanted to move forward with filling it, bring Rebekah onto that seat.

Call for a vote, Ty seconded

- Motion passed 8-0 (Erika, Ty, Liz, Aaron, Jackie, Jessica, Robel, Claire)
- Rebekah Fonden-Covington will take the vacant Commission seat

Annual retreat coming in January

Jackie: Last year a facilitator came in and guided commission in process, figuring out what the structure of retreat should look like to see how the day should be panned

Aaron volunteers to lead preparation to help find someone to facilitate the day, meeting each other, getting to know each other

- connect , reconnect, introduce ourselves: setting up the discussion rather than what specifically we need to talk about
- Get it on everyone's calendars ASAP because it was hard last year in person

Claire: Getting to know people in remote setting is very important

December meeting is typically Human Rights Day

Next part of agenda: Human Rights Day

Ty: Marta is lead, Jessica and Ty assisting

Marta: December 10 BLM, Centering around Seattle experience

- Gentrification, bringing someone from the CD to discuss those experiences
- Have 1 meeting to finalize everything, Seattle Channel is on board, will collaborate on the event
- Final details are what is in question right now: how many mics there are going to be, how many people on panel, etc. Will hopefully pull everything together

Marta: Call for bringing back awards for Human Rights Day

- Sending messages to the community for Lifetime Achievement, Art you want to highlight, etc.
- Low energy task: Google Form, send to community, make sure people are not nominating siblings or something

Erika: Is it a monetary award?

Marta: Historically not a monetary award, rather it is a recognition

Ty: Thinking about having a series of videos leading up to Human Rights Day that is about being black in the Pacific Northwest

- Marta: the budget is available

Erika: Anything else on Human Rights Day

Ty: We will need assistance from other Commissioners

Looking for someone to schedule an events meeting

- Marta will get a meeting started, will connect with other people including Nikkita Oliver to get the programming out of the way
- Jessica: If we can get this meeting w/ Nikkita together, the marketing and launch will go very smoothly
- Finding contacts for Equity Seattle and King County Now has been very difficult, too confusing, no leads

Councilmember Meetings

Liz: After last meeting, 2 meetings w/ councilmembers, Mosqueda and Juarez, opportunities with former to collaborate with us

Meeting with Councilmember Lewis, Councilmember Morales, and Kshama Sawant

Open invite to submit articles to her newsletter and collaborate with Debora Juarez policy team
Marta has been putting a lot of work to schedule meetings on the backend

Is now a good time if people have potential barriers to doing meetings with the councilmembers?

Erika callout: Email chains for the meetings with councilmembers get very confusing
Preparation/Standing Agenda w/ Councilmember meetings?

- Meet and greet w/ councilmembers
- More concrete details

Jessica: Meeting with the councilmembers is an incredible opportunity

Aaron: Are there a specific number of councilmembers on each meeting?

Erika & Marta: Meetings are already set up

2 meetings and one with Lewis on another issue

Hurdle: It is in the middle of the workday

Ty on Draft release with the mayor: Move to vote on the immediate release of the call for the mayor to resign

- Too many human rights violations happened to tolerate Mayor Durkan existing in her office any longer

Conversation about publicizing the letter

- Risk of sending letter out and it is harming Commissioners
- Is there a risk of people potentially being harmed physically?

Claire: We have to make sure that the final product has credibility across every statement being made.

Motion to approve letter for wide release after being updated to include edits:

- Erika motions the vote
- Ty seconds the motion
- Motion passes 8-0 (Erika, Ty, Liz, Aaron, Jackie, Jessica, Robel, Claire)
- Edits to be made by Liz before release.
- Rebekah had to leave the meeting early.

Erika: No matter what, we will send the statement out; will send to other commissions to see if they will sign as well

Liz timeline for project: Done by Monday

Next topic: Voting on the women's commission letter

- Post- Covid, we should still have virtual meetings, sign on?

Erika Motions, Ty seconds motion

- Approved 8-0 (Erika, Ty, Liz, Aaron, Jackie, Jessica, Robel, Claire)

Do retreats in person though?

Clarification: Offering flexibility of virtual meetings, welcome to do so
Motion passes

Task force updates:

Homelessness: Get things with Morales up to Lewis office

Human Trafficking: 1 webinar this week about HT, videos will be online next week, another program session about missing indigenous people

Criminal Justice: Task force meeting of Erika and Claire creating a mission vision statement. What task force is about, centered around equity and amplifying voices of people already doing the work

Google doc going of the list of organizations

Idea too is sharing social media and who are the organizations we want to partner with and amplify the voices of GC is in the slack channel

Next meeting scheduled for October 15th @6

Only 2 meetings so far; formed over this summer (Criminal Justice task force)

Executive Committee: Jackie is putting together posts that she can post on socials for human rights awards

Initiated a discussion with person from UW Human Rights department

- Let's try to have something come out of that

Communication: Jackie will have something for us to post out

Appeals: Really interesting session, Aaron; Brian; and Erika

- Appeal for case dismissed by SOCR, people can file claims with the office of civil rights based on discrimination based on protected classes
- Have to be appeals trained to be able to hear appeals

Case had been dismissed by OCR because there was an ongoing investigation on the same matter by HUD

- OCR and HUD had a working relationship where SOCR would investigate and set up with HUD, sometime in the kind of recent past it was broken
- They are not working anymore

Relook at an equity component whether director can decide on OCR case

Marta: Appointments on the docket

Appreciate you for doing the work that you feel is right to be doing

Announcements?