



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES

May 28, 2024

6:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL

Approved: August 27, 2024

Call to Order

Chair Allyson Dean called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Allyson Dean, Alyssa Nydegger, Jamie Jones, Robyn Davis, and Hedio Schulte (Commissioner Schulte lost connection and reconnected after the approval of the minutes.)

Members absent: Miriam Cummins (excused), Greg Soriano

Business from the public

6:02 p.m.

There was no business from the public.

Approval of April 23, 2024, minutes

6:02 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner Robyn Davis moved to approve the April 23, 2024, minutes. Commissioner Jamie Jones seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

Joint meeting with City Council

6:03 p.m.

The meeting will be held Monday, July 22, 2024, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Members listed these items for discussion at the meeting:

- The HRC's role, responsibilities, and priorities.
- Obstacles the HRC faces
- A budget for the HRC
- A land acknowledgement for the area's tribes

Members listed some desired HRC responsibilities to communicate to the City Council:

- Investigating cultural issues and asking local officials where they stand on those issues
- Making their presence known by attending local events
- Conducting campaigns or surveys

Staff liaison Kim Lyddane will email members to sign up for the next three monthly meetings of the Hispanic Advisory Committee and the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Ideally, a member would sign up for all three meetings of one organization to get a better understanding of that organization.

Lyddane updated the group about the HRC's website. The City Manager's Office is considering what commission websites should include to be consistent with each other. When that conclusion is made, Lyddane will report back to the members.

Dean and Commissioner Alyssa Nydegger will talk to their contacts who have connections to the Indigenous communities of Oregon to learn the best way to contact the tribes.

Human rights commission conversation across Oregon cities

6:34 p.m.

There is plenty of interest by area commissions to have the conversation move forward. The City of Salem is taking the lead on this but has been busy on a project assigned by their mayor. When time allows, an initial meeting will be set up through Zoom for commission chairs and liaisons to plan meeting format and frequency for the conversation.

In-person meetings

6:36 p.m.

Motion: Davis made a motion for the HRC to conduct in-person meetings during October and March. Jones seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Lyddane will make the necessary arrangements for the meetings to be held at City Hall.

Event debriefs and potential event involvement

6:37 p.m.

Moving forward, staff will adjust the HRC's events calendar to be two months out and not include past months.

Business from the Commission

6:44 p.m.

Jones expressed safety concerns in residential areas. Jones will take those concerns to the City's public safety and transportation commissions

Nydegger suggested the HRC have a presence at Albany's first Mushroom Festival on September 22, 2024. It will be held at either Monteith River Park or Timber Linn Park. Nydegger will let the group know when it has been decided.

Staff updates

6:54 p.m.

Lyddane announced that the Arts Commission is featuring art by local LGBTQ artists during the month of June at City Hall. The Commission hosts art receptions on the first Friday of the month from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at City Hall as a part of Downtown Albany's First Friday events.

Next meeting date

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

Jones said that she will not be able to attend this meeting.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Chair Dean adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Signature on file

Signature on file

Gina Burrese
Recorder

Kim Lyddane
Staff Liaison