



PARTICIPATION:

Commission Members Present:

Angelo Arredondo, Chair; Krista Gallagher, Vice Chair; Amelia Knight; Cathy Ostrand-Ponsioen; David Rheinholdt; Tricarico Schwartz

Commission Members Absent:

Leah Brooks; Bonnie Davidson; Susan McNaught; Kelsey Murray

Staff:

Gretchen Bennett, Lt. Debbie Aguilar

Guests:

ASL Interpretation Team; Lynn Takada; Joaquin Midkiff

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Review of Agenda

The You Tube channel transmission/recording was noted. Chair Arredondo called the meeting to order and welcomed the group. Introductions were shared.

2. Public Comment — None provided.

3. Consent Calendar

Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen motioned to approve the consent calendar which consisted of the agenda and meeting minutes; Commissioner Rheinholdt seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Action and/or Discussion Items:

a. Prevention of Hate and Bias Incidents

In light of recent biased graffiti at a local park the group discussed what actionable steps could be taken to prevent/stop in the future. Ideas included: removing right away, adding signage that conveys values or expectations, lighting, patrol, and reporting to law enforcement. Lt. Aguilar discussed the investigation process. People are asked to call when there is bias, or hate involved so they can take a bias incident or crime report. A discussion about creating a counter-narrative of belonging, and of efforts in schools, ensued.

b. Chapter 97 Recommendations

The Commission discussed analysis received about proposed Chapter 97 recommendations. Commissioner Rheinholdt asked about possible workload. Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen discussed possible additional steps such as adding the phrase housing status to the list.

Commissioner Schwartz asked how Chapter 97's intimidation sections would apply. Lt. Aguilar discussed the interplay of code and statute and asked if 'intimidation' could be edited. Gretchen will seek clarification and invite colleagues to the next meeting. After clarification, the

group will also consider how to add other voices to the review, per the committee's initial recommendation.

c. Bias Crime and Incident Report: Lt. Aguilar reported no new crime reports and three new incidents.

d. Complaints Report: Gretchen reported one situation.

e. Gatherings, Town Halls, Visiting Meetings: Earlier in the year the Commission noted interest in engaging with more community members and organizations. The idea of whether to host a gathering or a town hall was discussed. The idea of attending other gatherings or meetings hosted by other groups was explored. Gretchen will gather information on possible options and send out a sign-up sheet. Chair Arredondo noted that for in-person meetings, he would want to be sure people felt comfortable and did not feel obligated, given the Covid-19 pandemic. Vice Chair Gallagher suggested considering fall for a time of year to host a focused discussion.

5. Task Force and Project Updates:

a. Awareness: Chair Ostrand-Ponsioen reported the Western Oregon University Professor attended the meeting, and some from the group attended a university class to meet the students and discuss the upcoming discrimination survey. The survey is anticipated to open at the end of April, close in May, and the students would like to report at the June HRC meeting. The group also shared information with the mailing list about Transgender Day of Visibility. Chair Arredondo emphasized the importance of the survey being open to all persons and encouraged everyone to answer honestly.

b. Equity Asks Report: Gretchen reported on the decision by the City Council to explore a Request for Proposals.

c. LGBTQIA+ Intersectional Rights: The group is considering wanting pre-work to help demonstrate commitment to the Safe Spaces program. Resources and a decal are anticipated to be provided. Vice Chair Gallagher thanked the group for their work; Commissioner Schwartz thanked Krista for attending the task force meeting and welcomed all who would want to participate.

6. Staff Updates: Gretchen asked the group if there is interest in developing a position description from the perspective of being a commissioner. The idea had emerged as she connected with city staff who work with youth and young adults about recruitment for the youth member of HRC. People agreed to share thoughts with Gretchen.

7. Calendar of Events: Noted.

8. Member Remarks and Announcements:

Commissioners discussed the concept of belonging, asked Joaquin Midkiff how they came to hear about HRC, and discussed promotions proactively about commission opportunities.

Minutes respectfully presented by staff Gretchen Bennett.