



**PARTICIPANTS**

Commission Members Present:

Krista Gallagher, Vice Chair; Laura Fouts; Hamadi Jackson; Amelia Knight; Susan McNaught; Joaquin Lara Midkiff; Kelsey Murray; Cathy Ostrand-Ponsioen; David Rheinholdt; Tricarico Schwartz

Commission Members Absent:

Angelo Arredondo, Chair; Bonnie Davidson

Guests:

Spencer

**1. Call to Order, Welcome and Review of Agenda**

The You Tube channel transmission/recording was noted. Introductions were shared. Vice Chair Gallagher asked staff Gretchen Bennett to facilitate.

**2. Public Comment**

Written email previously received from Lynelle Wilcox discussed the encouragement of student presentation at City Council.

**3. Consent Calendar**

A quorum was not present at the beginning of the meeting.

**4. Action and/or Discussion Items:**

**a. Chapter 97 Recommendations**

Is there any further input on the proposed changes? The group indicated no, no changes.

The Commission had asked for an opportunity to review the proposed changes with people who have lived experience and with advocates. How would the group see that working? The group discussed going to where people are and finding ways to help people be comfortable. Gretchen will think through opportunities for outreach.

The group discussed the definition of sexual orientation and the interplay with the State of Oregon definition.

**b. Discrimination Survey**

Questions for HRC for tonight’s discussion include: what did Commissioners take away from the survey? What points does the group wish to highlight? Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen

asked about developing a one page info graphic to help communicate. Communicating back in a timely fashion is important to several people. Commissioner Lara Midkiff acknowledged the limitations of the data: to what degree is the data actionable to policy-makers? Where, and in what way, was discrimination experienced?

The group discussed the student recommendations. One was about a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer; Gretchen noted the recent DEI coordinator position created at the City and discussed current revenue challenges.

Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen received feedback from Lynelle Wilcox, community member, to consider a presentation to Council. The idea is to create a first-hand engagement. One idea for a structure emerged, to introduce the report, note data limitations, share HRC perspectives and what we've learned.

Additional notes:

- The prevalence of disabilities amongst persons experiencing homelessness,
- Breakdown of discrimination in other demographics may be a valuable tool,
- Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen noted the results were interestingly similar to last year.
- People who didn't experience discrimination were less likely to fill out the survey.

### **c. Town Hall**

The group discussed the idea of hosting a town hall. General interest was expressed; Gretchen will email out a past example of what the Commission had done. Vice Chair Gallagher noted homelessness is a big issue – any ideas there? Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen noted that education about helping people see the humanity in the issue has been of interest to the Awareness Task Force, coming out of last year's discrimination survey.

Commissioners asked, How many people would attend something along these lines? How effective is advertising? Can the gathering serve a dual purpose of discussing a topic and reporting out on what HRC does?

### **d. Bias Crime Update**

Lt. Aguilar reported on three bias crimes and one incident.

**c. Complaints Report:** No complaints received during the report period.

## **5. Task Force and Project Updates:**

- a. Awareness:** Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen reported on seeking ideas for what to do at next year's Discrimination Survey to share with the next group of students. Next month's communication will be about the ADA. The team also discussed a position

description for the HRC to help with communication to people who may become interested in serving.

- b. Equity Asks Report:** Gretchen shared about the recent receipt of sheltering dollars and funds to help prepare the Navigation Center building.
- c. LGBTQIA+ Intersectional Rights:** Commissioner Ostrand-Ponsioen indicated the team worked on the Safe Spaces workflow and considered the application process.

**6. Staff Updates:** No updates.

**7. Calendar of Events:** No events discussed.

**8. Member Remarks and Announcements:** Concern for challenges with quorum three times in a row; can we work on that?

A request for the core response training was expressed; Gretchen explained she hasn't yet been able to schedule one and will work on it.

*Minutes respectfully presented by staff Gretchen Bennett.*