



PARTICIPANTS

Commission Members Present:

Hamadi Jackson, Chair; Kelsey Murray, Vice Chair; Elana Lynn; Joaquin Lara Midkiff; Robert Marshall; Lisa Novak; Cathy Ostrand-Ponsioen; Kirra Pressey; David Rheinholdt, Hope Strayer

Guests Present:

Angelina; Professor Marianne Bradshaw; Lynelle Wilcox; and additional persons

Staff Present:

Gretchen Bennett

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Review of Agenda

Chair Jackson welcomed the group and facilitated introductions. The You Tube channel transmission did not work: the meeting was recorded. Chair Jackson shared reflections regarding the recent Gaza resolution and City Council remarks.

2. Public Comment

None provided

3. Consent Calendar: Agenda and Minutes

Vice Chair Murray moved the approval of the consent calendar. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. The motion to approve the consent calendar was unanimously approved.

4. Action and/or Discussion Items:

a. City Council Gaza Resolution: Update and Next Steps (part one)

Chair Jackson shared that if a similar request were to be received, he and the other Commission leadership proposes laying out procedures and guidelines. He introduced an idea to appoint a task force. Commissioner Marshall asked for staff participation to provide process clarifications. Vice Chair Murray added she would like to review the overall approach to meetings, such as use of parliamentary procedure and organizing differently. Commissioner Novak shared given the circumstances she thought that HRC did well and affirmed the group. The group agreed to table the discussion until later in the meeting.

b. Community Belonging Survey: Welcome Western Oregon University

Susana Garcia, WOU student, presented a series of slides; she was joined by other classmates during the presentation. Survey methodology and results were shared. 979 people began the

survey; there were 821 accepted responses. Professor Bradshaw explained overrepresentation of people experiencing homelessness and the importance and purpose of this. Angelina shared she has witnessed people who experience homelessness do not recognize discrimination or recognize the oppression, and this would affect results. The group thanked Commissioner Marshall for arranging the opportunity to survey people at ARCHES.

Professor Bradshaw offered to present the data differently if needed, upon request.

Commissioner Lynn asked about if there were suggestions from respondents about how to increase belonging. Yes: students noted the comment section includes ideas. Discussion continued about having a focus one year on belonging and another year about discrimination, noting the history for the inclusion of both themes, the distinction between the two, and the issues with surveys being too long.

Discussion included how to work more in advance to reach particular populations. Explore ideas to access help from interns here. Commissioner Strayer expressed surprise to not be able to take the survey being under 18; constraints for surveying people under 18 were explored.

Commissioners thanked WOU for their tremendous work and thoughtful recommendations!

c. Bias Crime Report

Not available this month

d. Complaints report

No reports received this month.

e. City Council Gaza Resolution: Update and Next Steps (part two)

Commissioner Lara Midkiff thanked everyone involved for their time, energy, and fielding the most public comment he recalls receiving to date – you centered decency, he said. He noted a resolution that looked like HRC's was adopted. He spoke about some comments heard were ill informed; he does not want to relitigate. He would like to discuss what processes ought to look like.

Vice Chair Murray moved to create a Process Review Task Force. Commissioner Strayer seconded the motion. Commissioner Marshall suggests clear objectives be provided; the group decided that the task force members would draft ideas and route back to HRC. Professor Bradshaw noted that norms of white dominated culture sometimes run against the value of HRC inclusion and urged awareness and caution. Membership will include the HRC leadership.

The group noted the formal complaint received by the City. Gretchen noted it is received and being investigated by the City Attorney's Office. This office cannot provide legal advice to any of the HRC Commissioners; she noted the resource of the ethics material provided by the City as well as the Oregon Government Ethics Commission. Commissioner Novak shared her

experience as a volunteer in Oregon City regarding the recall of an elected office and reaffirmed her support for the work HRC completed during the recent meetings.

5. Committee and Project Updates:

- a. Community Engagement:** Commissioner Lara Midkiff announced we will be going out in the community July 3 for on-the-ground outreach. Chair Jackson invited the WOU students to join if interested. This will be the first of multiple installments. The data visualization work will help our web site be more accessible and communicative. Commissioner Lara Midkiff shared that we talked with GIS and communications staff and these plans continue.
- b. Homelessness Information Summit:** Commissioner Marshall shared the initial idea for a summit, yet hearing stories shared today in the meeting as well as data received, it is interesting to ask if we can affect more change with housing and homelessness with a different approach. He noted the value of voices of people with lived experience. He wondered if we should have three providers, three people with lived experience, three business owners and three members of the public, and three Commissioners, and focus on data. How can we provide a better continuum of care? Gretchen suggested pausing, considering our limited capacity and the role of others in the system. Commissioner Lynn suggested both may be possible – a summit and a meeting along the lines of Commissioner Marshall’s idea. The group thought it could make sense to move forward with the summit planning. He can propose dates in August, and we can consider use of Loucks Auditorium at the library.
- c. LGBTQIA+ Intersectional Rights:** Vice Chair Murray noted it is PRIDE month! The group emailed locations of concern in the top six areas where discrimination was reported. She updated the brochure, and the committee will review the edits next. The committee is also working on SMARTIE goals. Public comment was received related to concern about hateful social media comments. When can we disable public comment?

6. Staff Updates:

Gretchen noted that Laura Fouts and Cathy Ostrand-Ponsioen are ending their service with the Commission. Appreciations were shared – thank you Laura and Cathy! Welcome new Commissioners Elana Lynn and Kirra Pressey!

7. Calendar:

Commissioner Strayer noted the calendar was emailed in the meeting material.

8. Member Remarks and Announcements:

None provided.

Minutes respectfully presented by staff Gretchen Bennett.