



Human Relations Commission
Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 6:15 pm
Meeting held virtually via Microsoft Teams



LEGAL ACTION REPORT

Pursuant to safe practices during COVID-19 pandemic, all in-person meetings are cancelled until further notice. The meeting was held virtually to allow for healthy practices and social distancing. The meeting was accessible at provided link to allow for participating virtually and/or calling in.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Dalton at 6:29 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Manuel Guzman, Chair	Mayor
Melissa Gomez	Ward 2
John Dalton, Vice Chair	Ward 3
Cedric Smith (arrived at 7:04pm)	Ward 4
Dr. June Webb-Vignery	Ward 5
Adrian Molina	GLBT

Absent:

Alisha Quadri	Advisory Member
Devon Henderson	Advisory Member

Staff Members Present:

Jaime Corrales	City Clerk's Office
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Guests Present:

None

2. Approval of Minutes: March 16, 2022
This item was taken out of order; after item 5

3. Call to the Audience

None

4. Chairperson's Summary of Current Events

Chair Guzman advised the HRC of the following:

The Cesar Chavez Holiday Coalition held their annual event. This was held in form of a vigil to honor people from the community and all laborers lost in the pandemic.

The Tohono O'Odham Nation will be hosting a number of celebrations for the Easter Holiday.

5. Commissioners Summary of Current Events

Reports were provided by Vice Chair Dalton and Commissioner Webb-Vignery.

Vice Chair Dalton stated that a reception and speech was held on April 7, 2022, for the Counsel General of Ukraine from Los Angeles, California. He briefed attendees of the situation in Ukraine. He asked from those present and the State of Arizona to provide help in any way possible.

He also stated that The United Nations Association of Southern Arizona hosted an event that was originally for the Ukrainian Counsel of Tucson on April 12, 2022. This was rescheduled due to unexpected medical issues, and Dr. Ihor Kunasz spoke in his place. He addressed the History of Russian Aggression in the area of Ukraine.

Dr June Webb-Vignery stated that she has had conversations with members of the Southern Arizona Political Caucus; the discussion has been about how voting is changing at the Legislature. She informed them that Gabriella Casarez-Kelly, Pima County Recorder had previously attended an HRC meeting, and asked if this could be a possibility for future HRC meetings. The Commission agreed. No formal action was taken.

Vice Chair Dalton stated that the Ray Davies Foundation will be holding their annual event on April 28, 2022, at 5:30 pm at their Campus on 5049 E Broadway. Vice Chair Dalton said he will provide the link to the Commission.

2. Approval of Minutes: March 16, 2022

It was moved by Commissioner Webb-Vignary, duly seconded by Commissioner Molina, and carried by a roll call vote of 5 to 0 (**Commissioner Smith arrived late**), to approve the **March 16, 2022**, Summary Minutes.

6. Commissioners Reports and Discussion

a. Rosa Parks & Ray Davies Scholarship Funds

No discussion was held. No formal action taken.

b. Strategic Planning

No discussion was held. No formal action taken.

c. Diversity Report

No discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

d. Human Rights Standards in Procurement

Vice Chair Dalton stated that he had provided documents for distribution to the HRC. These were sent to Jaime Corrales, HRC Support Staff for distribution. Jaime Corrales forwarded these to the HRC via email.

Vice Chair Dalton stated that he had found numerous documents that may be useful information to the HRC. Vice Chair Dalton asked if these could be hand delivered to City Hall for distribution. Jaime Corrales advised that these could be dropped off. He will scan these and forward to the HRC via email.

No formal action was taken

7. Update Regarding Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues:

Commissioner Molina stated that he has spoken to Chair Michael Webb of the GLBT Commission. He informed the HRC that he has advised Chair Webb that due to unforeseen work responsibilities, he will no longer be able to represent the GLBT Commission on the HRC, and that a replacement Commissioner should be appointed. He advised the HRC that Chair Webb will begin working on his replacement. Commissioner Molina advised the HRC that he will stay active until his replacement is appointed, to allow for quorum.

Vice Chair Dalton stated that he was present at the last GLBT Commission meeting, and they formally asked for the HRC's support, regarding the Initiatives currently being discussed on Transgender Athletes. He stated that there was a recent resolution passed by the GLBT urging City Officials for advocacy against the Governor having signed this bill. Vice Chair Dalton stated that a coordinated effort supporting the GLBT and their opposition to this bill.

Commissioner Webb-Vignery asked if the HRC could join the GLBT Commission in support of their efforts? Vice Chair Dalton stated that this would require the item to be agendaized for formal action.

Chair Guzman asked that the HRC use the language used by the GLBT Commission, to amplify their message.

8. Action Regarding 2020 Census Undercounts

Chair Guzman stated that he did not have a formal update. He did state however that he has had communication with Mayor Romero's Office. He stated that this issue is on their radar. He also stated that there is interest in hearing more on how to advocate for more accurate numbers when it comes to disbursement

He encouraged the Commission to think of what action steps can be taken, and possibly suggest this issue be a Study Session item for further discussion.

Commissioner Gomez stated that in her research she found the following figures:

- Undercounts in Arizona are .67% (Statewide-No information available for Pima County, specifically). The highest affected group under people of color were Latinos
- In Arizona this count translated to about 48,000 people, which could potentially be a loss of about \$14 million in Federal Medicaid and other losses
- Undercounts for Latinos [Nationally] is at 2.17%
- Undercounts for African Americans [Nationally] is at 2.45%

Chair Guzman suggested that formal action be taken regarding these data points.

A motion was made by Chair Guzman to present this information to Mayor and Council for further review and action.

It was moved by Chair Guzman, duly seconded by Commissioner Gomez, and carried by a roll call vote of 5 to 0 (**Commissioner Smith arrived late**), to make recommendation to Mayor and Council to further study the Census undercounts and how these impact funding to the City of Tucson, knowing the data points shared by Commissioner Gomez.

9. Immigrant Welcoming City

Chair Guzman advised the Commission that the Biden Administration suspended Title 42 Program, which was implemented by the previous Administration. He stated that Mayor Romero has been interviewed numerous times about this. He referenced a recent interview on NPR (April 5, 2022), in which she shared a what the City of Tucson has done for the immigrant community locally. He credited Mayor Romero for changing the conversation for the need to uphold human rights in the community. He felt it was important to recognize the message coming from the Mayor's Office is that we also care for one another.

10. Housing / Rental Rates

No discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

11. Invitation of Police Chief Kasmar to attend HRC

No discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

12. Vacancy and Advisory Positions

Commissioner Molina advised the HRC that he will no longer be available on Wednesday evenings, therefore he will no longer be available to serve as the HRC liaison for the GLBT.

Vice Chair Dalton advised the HRC of the upcoming expiration of his appointment GLBT liaison to the GLBT. He asked if it would be necessary for this to be an agenda item for his reappointment to GLBT. Jaime Corrales advised the HRC that he would get clarification on this and relay any pertinent information the HRC.

a. Letter to Mayor and Council Regarding HRC Vacancies

No discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

13. Future Agenda Items

- Legislative Changes that affect the Community
- Invitation of Pima County Recorder to attend a future HRC meeting
- HRC support of the GLBT Commission on Legislative Decisions affecting the Community
- Appointment of HRC exchange Commissioner to the GLBT Commission and GLBT Commission exchange Commissioner to the HRC
- Strategic Planning Priority Items to focus in as a Commission

14. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Next HRC meeting – May 11, 2022, at 6:15pm