



Human Relations Commission
Thursday, March 20, 2025, 5:15 pm
Meeting held virtually via Microsoft Teams



Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Smith at 5:18 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Ashley Jackson	Ward 2
Eric Howard	Ward 3
Cedric Smith, Chair	Ward 4
Dr. June Webb-Vignery	Ward 5
John Dalton	Non-Voting Advisory Member

Absent:

Isis Berry	Non-Voting Advisory Member
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Staff Members Present:

Rick Guerra	City Clerk's Office
Susana Zamora	City Clerk's Office

2. Approval of Minutes: meeting of February 12, 2025

It was moved by Commissioner Webb-Vignery, duly seconded, and carried by a roll call vote of 3 to 0, to approve the Minutes of February 12, 2025.

With corrections on the Minutes to show item #6 as Daniel Sullivan, instead of Daniel Dalton.

Ashley Jackson logged in at 5:33pm.

3. Call to the Audience

N/A

4. Chairperson's Summary of Current Events

Chairman Smith has no updates on current events but does have notes. He was able to reach out to the Equity Office. The Equity Office doesn't have any updates yet, but they are still receiving information and looking to make changes as necessary with all the federal and presidential changes coming up. They also mention that Rebecca Hill retired but has not yet been confirmed.

5. Commissioners' Summary of Current Events

Commissioner Webb-Vignery mentioned that Pima County Interfaith has and had endorsed a Parish ID. It was endorsed by both the Pima County Sheriff's Office and Tucson Police Department. This provides the community with a form of ID that may not have any legal document. Several Catholic churches have already put this into effect.

Commissioner Howard asked how other churches would get involved in that. Is there a website that Pima County Interfaith might have?

Commissioner Webb-Vignery said yes, Pima County Interfaith does have a website. You can send me an email and I can help address questions for you. She is part of St. Francis church, and they are preparing now to present to the congregation and have them involved with the process.

Commissioner Howard goes to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, and it might be something they are interested in.

Chairman Smith asked, does anyone have anything else? June, do you have any updated for the LGBTQ?

6. Update from HRC Representative to LGBTQ

Commissioner Webb-Vignery said yes, the LGBTQ Commission met on March 6, and they put a letter together that we all signed regarding the President's executive order that affects the LGBTQ community, and the letter was sent in digital form to Mayor Romero. This month it will be distributed to Council members and staff members. This letter addresses the effects it is having on the community with the executive orders.

Commissioner Howard asked what action we are asking specifically from the Mayor and Council on this letter.

Commissioner Webb-Vignery said that the letter is basically addressing all the executive orders, but several have addressed the concerns of the LGBTQ community. It's also to get the discussion on the table to get our elected officials to take notice. When the letter was signed, it was representing the Human Relations Commission (HRC).

7. Vacancy and Advisory Positions

Chairman Smith mentioned that Miss Barry is a non-voting advisor to the commission but would limit to become a commissioner for one of the vacancies spots available.

Rick Guerra mentioned the current vacancies HRC has are the Mayor's Office, Ward 1, and Ward 6. Iris can reach out to the ward Council member to speak with them about the vacancies to see if she can get them to make a recommendation and appoint her. But we will reach out to her and give her and guide her.

8. Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Webb-Vignery mentioned that our community lost a very strong leader Raul Grijalva. Wants to know if they can write a letter to Congressman Grijalva's family just saying that we appreciate his leadership and to his inspiration through the years in our community and for his leadership in conservation.

Chairman Smith asked if they needed to follow any specific protocol. Or we they free to just draft a letter and discuss it as a commission?

Rick Guerra mentioned that this needs to be added as a future agenda item for next month and in the meantime, they are putting something together, submitted to the commission and they can review, add, or delete, make corrections, and approve next meeting.

Commissioner Howard likes the idea of writing a letter for Mr. Grijalva's family. So, who would lead the draft letter that we would review?

Commissioner Jackson said that is something she is willing to draft for review.

John Dalton mentioned that it would be like the draft resolution they talked about the last meeting. It is something that needs to be added to the agenda to be able to talk about it in the future meeting.

Rick Guerra confirmed that it needs to be added to the agenda for the commission to talk about and approve/deny the subject on future agendas.

Commissioner Jackson is going to see the draft letter to Chairman Smith and Mr. Guerra to be added to the meeting in April. Then the draft will be sent with the agenda to the commission for approval/denial and not prior.

Chairman Smith asked if anyone recalls if they finalized who was going to draft the letter dealing with the Subcommittee and what route we wanted to go with.

John Dalton mentioned that it should be added to the next agenda so they can discuss more on that topic and commit to creating a draft of the resolution.

Commissioner Howard mention that they couldn't form a subcommittee because they would have quorum if they did, but potentially they could be a group of two people and they wouldn't form a quorum. But it can be added to April's agenda to discuss in the meeting.

John Dalton mention since he is a non-voting advisor, he can start the draft and when talking to the committee it wouldn't count towards quorum.

Chairman Smith would like to bring up future agendas, involving recruitment efforts to try to get some additional members, commissioners for the team.

Commissioner Howard would like to see if they can invite or hear from the Council members or someone in regard to the budgeting since they are in the process right now with the budget cycle.

Commissioner Webb-Vignery said that is a good idea.

Rick Guerra suggested that each of the commissioners reach out to the council member officer they represent and speak with them to see if that is something they can move forward with and get the approval from Chairman Smith.

John Dalton reminded the commissioners should email Mr. Guerra or Chairman Smith anything for the next agenda to be reviewed.

Chairman Smith mention that after commissioner talk to their Council member, they can discuss the findings under the summary of current events.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:01 pm.