TUCSON

Human Relations Commission

Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5:15 pm Meeting held virtually via Microsoft Teams

Legal Action Report



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:

Staff Members Present:

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

2. Approval of Minutes: meeting of December 11, 2024

Motion pass 4 - 0.

3. Call to the Audience

Jacob Dorfman – wants to know if they can remove plastic straws.

4. Chairperson's Summary of Current Events

No comments made.

5. Commissioners' Summary of Current Events

Commissioner Webb-Vignery mentioned that she is the representative to LGBTQ.

Chair Smith introduced Daniel Sullivan as the speaker for the TCE.

6. Daniel Sullivan to discuss the TCE Situation

Daniel Sullivan asks if anyone had any questions before the presentation started.

Commissioner Howard showed a timeline of the TCE to introduced to Environment that started in 1940's to present. The timeline shows if any waters sources in the affected areas shows any sign of TCE and 1,4-Dioxane from TARP and AOP.

Daniel Sullivan is a psychologist with the U of A that has research the TCE situation. Mentioned that people could have been exposed to TCE in southside of Tucson in 1960's/1970's. Talked people about the subject door-to-door survey in 2023 with 363 peoples and their perceive health and symptoms. Symptoms include Cancer, Autoimmune Disease, Birth Defect, and Post-Traumatic Stress. Exposed Southside Residents, Non-Exposed Southside Residents, Non-Exposed Central Tucson Residents. Has seen people stress because of this historic event.

Commissioner Dr. June asked is the Tohono O'odham Nation was one of the affected areas.

Daniel Sullivan does know since most of the people who he talked to was Tucson residents.

John Dalton would want to see a resolution or a letter to the Council members that the commission would write to help this matter and do more research in a public hearing to bring this topic to a higher level.

Daniel Dalton mention that Ward 5 and Raul Grijalva where involve in the early stages of this issue as other people. This was an environmental racism. If this would had happened in a different part of town the issue would have been resolve a lot sooner.

John Dalton said that next steps would be to do a resolution that you guys can vote on the next couple of meetings. Or creating a sub-committed if possible. A Resolution will be a formal declaration. This can be stating a position to advise that City Council act and it doesn't necessarily have to be City Council it can be

7. Update from HRC Representative to LGBTQ

Commissioner Webb-Vignery previously mentioned that she will be the HRC representative for LGBTQ. Due to a technical glitch was not able to attend the meeting, but thanks to Gail Albright who is the Chair Commission got the information. They will be gathering to take to city government to request support for the LGBTQ within a week.

8. Vacancy and Advisory Positions

Rick Guerra mention that Current Vacancy are from Ward 1, Ward 6 and Mayor.

Chair Smith wanted to know if they can vote for Non-Voting Advisory Member on the next meeting or the following to being Iris B.

Rick Guerra mention they don't have to wait and they can vote on this today. Since they have space for 3 more non-voting advisory members.

Chait Smith asked Iris B is this was ok with her.

Iris B said yes.

Chair Smith votes to appointed Iris B as a Non-Voting Advisory Member

Commissioner Dr. June second the vote.

Motion pass 4 - 0.

9. Future Agenda Items

Chair Commission future agenda items discussed were, drafting a letter of resolution and commit creating a sub-committee.

Commissioner Howard ask if the March agenda would be to come up with terms to create a sub-committee that would work further on the resolution language and letter.

Chair Commission mention that they would have to vote on that.

Rick Guerra mention that on the sub-committee issue is that the committee doesn't have so many members to form a subcommittee you need a minimum of three, and right now three right now makes a full commission.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm