



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



Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by Chairman 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

It was moved by Commissioner Webb-Vignery, duly seconded, and carried by a roll call vote of 4 to 0, to approve the Minutes of December 11, 2024.

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 were made.

5. Commissioners' Summary of Current Events

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

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

6. Daniel Sullivan to discuss the TCE Situation

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

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

Daniel Sullivan is a psychologist at the U of A who researches the TCE situation. Mentioned that people could have been exposed to TCE in the southside of Tucson in the 1960s/1970s. Talked to 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 Defects, 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 Webb-Vignery asked if the Tohono O'odham Nation was one of the affected areas.

Daniel Sullivan does know since most of the people who he talked to were 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 Sullivan mentions 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 the next steps would be to do a resolution that you guys can vote on in 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 the 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 would 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 the city government to request support for the LGBTQ within a week.

8. Vacancy and Advisory Positions

Rick Guerra mentioned that the Current Vacancies are from Ward 1, Ward 6, and Mayor.

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

Rick Guerra mentioned they don't have to wait, and they can vote on this today.

Since they have space for 3 more non-voting advisory members.

Chair Smith asked Iris B if this was ok with her.

Iris B said yes.

It was moved by Chairman Smith, duly seconded, and carried by a roll call vote of 4 to 0, to approve Iris Berry to be a Non-Voting Advisory Member.

9. Future Agenda Items

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

Commissioner Howard asked 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 Smith mentioned that they would have to vote on that.

Rick Guerra mentioned that 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 makes a full commission.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.