



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION AGENDA

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Please join the meeting at 7:00 p.m. from your computer, tablet, or smartphone

<https://www.gotomeet.me/cityofalbany/hrc>

You can use your built-in microphone or dial in using your phone.

Call: 1-669-224-3318 Access code: 283-580-261

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 25, 2020 MINUTES [Pages 2-5]
4. SCHEDULED BUSINESS
 - a. Business from the Public
Persons wanting to provide comment to the body must send their written comments by email to gina.burrese@cityofalbany.net. Please limit comments to one page. Emails received by noon the day of the meeting will be included in the public record.
 - b. October 27 Joint Meeting with Hispanic Advisory Committee [Verbal]
 - c. Final Details for September 23 Council Meeting Presentations of 2019 Award and Report [Page 6]
 - d. HRC Calendar Event Debriefs [Pages 7-8]
 - e. Upcoming Events from HRC Calendar and Other Volunteer Opportunities [Pages 7-8]
 - f. Highlights for 2020 Annual Report Preparation [Verbal]
 - g. Staff Updates – Deputy City Manager/CIO Jorge Salinas [Verbal]
5. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION
6. NEXT MEETING DATE: *Tuesday, October 27, 2020*
7. ADJOURNMENT

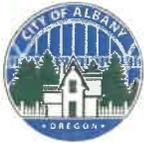
Microphones will be muted and webcams will be turned off for presenters and members of the public unless called upon to speak.

If participant(s) disrupt the meeting, the participant(s) microphone and webcam will be turned off.

If disruption continues, the participant(s) will be removed from the meeting.

Due to Governor Brown's Executive Orders limiting public gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting is accessible to the public via phone and video connection.





HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

Remote

Approved: DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stephanie Newton called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Stephanie Newton, Jessi Brenneman, Scott Lawley, Jo Rae Perkins, and Ray Kopczynski

Commissioners absent: Daniel Ropp

MOTION: Commissioner Jo Rae Perkins nominated Commissioner Scott Lawley for the position of Vice-Chair. Lawley accepted the nomination. Commissioner Ray Kopczynski seconded the nomination, which passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7:06 p.m.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to approve the July 28, 2020, minutes as presented. Commissioner Jessi Brenneman seconded the motion, which passed 4-0, with Commissioner Jo Rae Perkins abstaining.

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

7:07 p.m.

Graham Kislingbury said that he was glad the commission was addressing the racial incidents and Black Lives Matter and urged the commission to refer to the racial incidents as hate crimes. Kislingbury spoke about previous incidents and said that he would be happy to lead an effort that reached the victims of the incidents with letters or notes of support and encouragement.

Javier Cervantes testified from the public. Cervantes said that he sees the incidents as a systemic problem and would like to see the commission recommend to the city council a formal denouncement of the incidents.

Cynthia Spencer identified herself as a Corvallis resident and member of the Corvallis/Albany NAACP. She said that the incidents were intended to bring about fear and loathing and that she is asking the City of Albany to stand against that behavior.

Clarice Amorim Freitas encouraged those present to watch a city council session from July 2017 where there was much community testimony about residents' experience with racial tension and hatred in Albany. Freitas said that incidents of racial hatred are not new to Albany and will continue to happen if nothing is done. Freitas said that she believes Albany wants to be a welcoming community but is not currently a welcoming community to people of color. Freitas said that the council should consider nominating a person from a group not currently represented on the commission to fill the newly empty commission seat.

Nancy Greenman agreed with Cervantes and Freitas.

Cervantes said that he would like the city council and the commission to organize and attend a town hall to hear public testimony about racial incidents in Albany.

Mayor Sharon Konopa said that she will ask the victims of the incidents if they would like to receive support from members of the public. She said that a town hall, resolution, or proclamation, would need to be approved by the city council

Lawley said that he would like to be a part of a town hall or community conversation but would like to know the details first.

UPDATE ON RECENT RACIAL INCIDENTS

7:43 p.m.

Police Chief Marcia Harnden gave an update about the two recent racial incidents in Albany and confirmed that they both are being considered hate crimes. Harnden said that, without a tip, the investigation might be stuck.

Harnden said that it has been her intention since she was hired to create open lines of communication with the community so that concerns can be brought up before incidents occur. She said that the COVID pandemic has delayed that effort, but the Police Department is having internal discussions about training gaps, implicit biases, and who to engage in the community.

Harnden said that the police department cannot wait for the city to act and must move forward and build bridges of trust in the community. Harnden said that there will be opportunities for community members to sit on police hiring and promotional panels as well as have hard conversations with police officers.

ALBANY BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS PRESENTATION BY ALEX JOHNSON II

7:59 p.m.

Councilor Alex Johnson II said that the protest originated with two young girls who were protesting how their biracial friend was being treated at school. He spoke about the attacks he received online, the damage to his property, and the threats he received because of his involvement with the event.

Johnson II shared three stories that he heard from people who attended the event.

Johnson II commended Harnden and her officers for their actions at the protest and thanked other people for their attendance and action. He noted that there were more children at the protest than adults. He said that he and Linn County Commissioner Will Tucker searched the next day for graffiti or trash and did not find any.

Johnson II said that he had never felt prouder of the City of Albany.

Perkins said that the hate that Johnson II gets and that she gets is different but the same. Perkins said that her son was a victim of a hate crime and had his face broken. She said that, as a white woman, she understands how Johnson II feels and that everyone just wants to feel safe and loved. Perkins said that she is appalled by the hatred she sees. She asked that Johnson II thank the organizers of the protest on her behalf.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION

8:13 p.m.

Newton said that the presentation was rescheduled to the September 23, 2020, city council meeting and that the final report was sent in and will be available at City Hall for the commissioners to sign. She asked that all commissioners make time to go to City Hall to sign it before the meeting date.

HRC CALENDAR EVENT DEBRIEFS

8:14 p.m.

Newton said that she attended a honk-and-wave event in support of the United States Postal Service.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORUTUNITIES

8:16 p.m.

Perkins said that the National Night Out was rescheduled to October 6, 2020.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2020 ANNUAL REPORT PREPARATION

8:17 p.m.

Newton suggested that the 2020 Annual Report highlight the conversation about the racial incidents and racism in Albany.

Newton said the report will reflect that Lawley was elected as vice-chair.

STAFF UPDATES

8:19 p.m.

Deputy City Manager/CIO Jorge Salinas gave an update about the HRC awards and said that the majority of award recipients will be able to attend the scheduled council meeting.

Newton read aloud a resolution that was provided to the commission by Konopa (*see agenda file*).

MOTION: Perkins moved that the Human Relations Commission stand in support of the resolution as read by Newton and recommend the resolution to the City Council. Kopczynski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

8:26 p.m.

The commission discussed what a town hall meeting hosted by the commission would look like. The commission agreed to move forward with organizing a town hall event and inviting the city council to that event.

Perkins said that she saw Konopa at the Blue Lives Matter rally and congratulated Kopczynski and Breneman on filing for the office of city councilor.

Salinas said that he will ensure that people can apply for the commission vacancy via the website.

Newton said that she is the new representative from the commission to the Community Development Commission.

Kopczynski said that he has recently joined the NAACP and hopes to get more involved with that organization.

NEXT MEETING DATES Tuesday, September 22, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Gabe Shepherd
Recorder

Jorge Salinas
Deputy City Manager/CIO

Note: Staff handouts referred to in the minutes as (see agenda file) are available on the website in the "Staff Handouts" column.

Human Relations Award

Process

- Two categories
 - Individuals
 - Albany organizations or businesses
 - Publicity seeking nominations [*January 1, 2020, thru February 14, 2020*]
 - News release
 - Posting on City's website
 - Provide Blake Pang at United Way, Love INC, and Chamber with the nomination form (English and Spanish) and the news release for distribution via their networks
 - Nomination forms due by 5:00 p.m. Friday, February 14, 2020
 - Nominations are shared at the February 25 HRC meeting
 - **HRC makes HRA selections and votes by email**
 - Selects top three finalists for the two categories (if enough applications are submitted)
 - Selects award recipients for the two categories [receives award]
 - Selects up to two runners-up for the two categories [receives certificate]
- [Name of "award" recipients to be kept confidential so that it is a surprise at the awards presentation in ~~May~~ September.]***
- City orders award(s) and prepares certificates.
 - HRC presents the awards and certificates at ~~May 13~~ *September 23, 2020, city council meeting* (rescheduled from May)
 - Finalists attend city council meeting

Time Schedule

- *January 1 thru February 14, 2020*: Submission of HR award applications
 - Nomination forms due by 5:00 p.m. Friday, February 14, 2020
 - *After February 14, 2020, application deadline*: HRC makes HRA awards selections
 - Selects top three finalists for the two categories
 - Selects award recipients for the two categories [receives award]
 - Selects up to two runners-up for the two categories [receives certificate]
- [Name of "award" recipients to be kept confidential so that it's a surprise at the awards presentation during the ~~May~~ September 2020, city council meeting]***
- ~~August 26~~ *September 23, 2020, city council meeting*:
 - HRC representatives:
 - 1) attends/remotely joins meeting
 - 2) gives foundational introduction that sets the stage for public understanding of the award's purpose; and
 - 3) for each category:
 - a) reads info about the recipient and presents the award; and
 - b) reads info about the runner-up(s) and presents the certificate(s).
 - Finalists attend/remotely join city council meeting
 - Following the council meeting, provide photos, if available, to *Democrat-Herald*.
 - Issue news release announcing award recipients

Calendar of Events

January 2020

01/17/2020	Leadership LBCC: Equity & Cultural Fluency Series	8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.	LBCC- Fireside Room
01/19/2019	Women's March	noon-3:00 p.m.	Central City Park, Corvallis
01/20/2019	MLK Day		
01/28/2019	HRC meeting	7:00 p.m.	City Hall Municipal Courtroom
01/30/2020	Youth Mental Health First Aid	8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.	Linn Benton Community College- Cascade View Room

February 2020

02/04/2020	Community Conversation with City Manager Peter Troedsson	6:00 p.m.	The Barn at the Hickory Station
02/06/2020	Coffee Break with the City Manager	9:00 a.m.	Albany Senior Center
02/12/2020	Adult Mental Health First Aid	8:00 a.m.-	Linn Benton Lincoln Education
02/13/2020	PFLAG (call for confirmation: 541-782-8829)	5:00 p.m.	Services District
02/13/2020	NAACP	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
04/14/2020	Deadline for submission of 2019 HRA nomination forms	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
02/14/2020	Leadership LBCC: Equity & Cultural Fluency Series	8:00 a.m.-	
02/25/2020	HRC meeting	4:00 p.m.	LBCC- Fireside Room
02/26/2020	HRC Annual Report Presentation for Year 2019	7:00 p.m.	City Hall Municipal Courtroom
		7:15 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers

March 2020

03/05/2020	Albany Waterfront Project Open House	4:00-	
03/06/2020	Coffee with a Cop	6:00 p.m.	Senior Center
03/09/2020	Albany Housing and Economic Needs Analysis Project Discussion	9:00 a.m.	At The Brim Coffee Co.
03/10/2020	Annual Training for Citizen Advisory Groups	6:30 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers
03/12/2020	PFLAG (call for confirmation: 541-782-8829)	6:00 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers
03/12/2020	NAACP	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
03/24/2020	HRC meeting-(Canceled)	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
		7:00 p.m.	City Hall Municipal Courtroom

April 2020

TBD	Unity Celebration	4:00 p.m.	LBCC
TBD	African American Youth Leadership Conference		
04/09/2020	PFLAG (call for confirmation: 541-782-8829)	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
04/09/2020	NAACP	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
04/28/2020	Joint meeting of HRC and HAC	TBD	City Hall Municipal Courtroom
04/28/2020	HRC meeting-(Canceled)	TBD	City Hall Municipal Courtroom

May 2020

	Mental Health Month		
	International Culture Night		LBCC
	OneVibe Diversity Day!		LBCC
05/13/2019	2019 Human Relations Award presentation	7:15 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers
05/14/2020	PFLAG (call for confirmation: 541-782-8829)	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
05/14/2020	NAACP	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
05/16/2020	Coffee Break with the City Manager	9:00 a.m.	Albany Senior Center
05/21/2020	HEART to Heart Resource Fair (always 3rd Thursday in May)	9:00 a.m.-	
05/25/2020	Memorial Day events	1:00 p.m.	Albany Boys & Girls Club
05/26/2020	HRC meeting-(Canceled)	7:00 p.m.	City Hall Municipal Courtroom

June 2020

06/06/2020	Juneteenth Celebration (Corvallis/Albany NAACP presents)	10:30 a.m.-	
06/11/2020	PFLAG	2:00 p.m.	A Series of Virtual Gatherings
06/11/2020	NAACP	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
	LGBTQ Rally/March	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
			Linn County Courthouse &
		11:00 a.m.	Downtown Albany
06/23/2020	HRC meeting	7:00 p.m.	Remote
6/24-27/2020	Safety Camp for kids entering grades 4-6 (Canceled)	9:00 a.m.	Timber Ridge School

July 2020

07/09/2020	PFLAG	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
07/09/2020	NAACP	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
07/28/2020	HRC meeting	7:00 p.m.	Remote

August 2020

	Midsummer Arts Festival	10:00 a.m.	Monteith Riverpark
	National Night Out Event (Rescheduled to October)		
08/13/2020	PFLAG	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
08/13/2020	NAACP	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
08/25/2020	HRC meeting	7:00 p.m.	Remote
08/26/2020	Present HR Award and annual report during City Council Meeting	7:15 p.m.	

September 2020

09/10/2020	PFLAG	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
09/10/2020	NAACP	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
	Festival Latino	noon-4:00 p.m.	Monteith Riverpark
09/22/2020	HRC meeting	7:00 p.m.	City Hall Municipal Courtroom
09/23/2020	Present HR Award and annual report during City Council Meeting	7:15 p.m.	
09/24/2020	Linn-Benton Veteran Stand-Down	9:00 a.m.	LBCG

October 2020

Tuesdays	Community Meal	4:30 p.m.	First Christian Church, Albany
10/4-10/2020	Mental Illness Awareness week		
10/06/2020	National Night Out Event		
10/08/2020	PFLAG	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
10/08/2020	NAACP	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
10/10/2020	Family Tree Relief Nursery: Planting the Future Gala		Virtual Event
10/27/2020	HRC/HAC joint meeting	4:00 p.m.	City Hall Municipal Courtroom
10/27/2020	HRC meeting	5:00 p.m.	City Hall Municipal Courtroom

November 2020

	Annual Summit on Homelessness		
11/11/2020	Veterans Day Memorial Service	8:30 a.m.	Timber Linn Park
11/11/2020	Veterans Day Parade (Canceled)	11:00 a.m.	Downtown Albany
11/12/2020	PFLAG	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
11/12/2020	NAACP	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
11/24/2020	HRC meeting	7:00 p.m.	City Hall Municipal Courtroom

December 2020

12/10/2020	PFLAG	6:30 p.m.	First Christian Church
12/10/2020	NAACP	7:00 p.m.	Albany Public Library
TBD	HRC meeting	7:00 p.m.	City Hall Municipal Courtroom
	Homeless Persons' Memorial Service	5:30 p.m.	