



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES

February 22, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Remote

Approved: March 22, 2022

Call to Order

Chair Stephanie Newton called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Jamie Jones, Stephanie Newton, Robyn Davis, Keith Kolkow, and Greg Soriano (arrived at 7:07 p.m.)

Members absent: Miriam Cummins (unexcused)

Business from the Public

None.

7:03 p.m.

Approval of January 25, 2022, Minutes

7:04 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner Keith Kolkow moved to approve the January 25, 2022, minutes as presented. Commissioner Robyn Davis seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

Statistical transparency of policing report

7:05 p.m.

Chief Marcia Harnden and Crime Analyst Pat Hurley of the Albany Police Department (APD) were in attendance to talk about the report. Harnden gave some history and context for the report. The state's Criminal Justice Commission has a PDF of the report for public review, but it is very large and cumbersome. Personnel at the Linn County Sheriff's Office, along with Hurley, created their own dashboard for ease of use.

The APD has an early warning system that alerts them when there are a certain number of complaints or incidents such as use of force. The dashboard data helps them analyze those warnings. The dashboard also helps the APD to compare themselves with other cities.

Hurley displayed the dashboard.* He explained that census data is not used because it does not capture everything about a community, such as the transitory nature of its traffic. Hurley used methodologies he learned from a 2019 training to create a specific page on the dashboard. It includes a stop analysis comparing data between stops made during the daylight hours versus at night when it is harder for an officer to determine the race of an individual. A big discrepancy between the two would be cause for concern.

Hurley pointed out that since Albany has such low numbers, any one difference can show up as a big percentage. APD officers have body cameras but there has to be just cause to view the footage The dashboard would show if there is just cause.

Harden noted that use-of-force data is published on the website on a quarterly and yearly basis breaking down the data by gender, age, race, type of force used, mental health, type of crime, and so on. The data is passed on to the City Council.

Historic Preservation Month

7:26 p.m.

Newton will be attending the next Landmarks Advisory Commission meeting. She and Kolkow would like to work with the Commission to create a tour highlighting diversity and how it intersects with Albany's history. Newton had pitched the idea to some of the Landmark Advisory Commission members who responded favorably.

HRC proposed project updates

7:27 p.m.

Oregon Humanities Board Program

A member of the Oregon Humanities Board reached out to Newton to see if the HRC would be interested in partnering with them for a program. Newton will meet with the board member for more information to report back to the group. She said that the program sounds like it would align with the HRC's goals and mission.

Community Walk

Commissioner Greg Soriano will be meeting with Mr. Dorset this Thursday to talk about the walk. Soriano will update the group next month.

HRC Event Debriefs and Upcoming Events from HRC Calendar

7:29 p.m.

Lyddane noted that there may be some trainings coming in the spring or summer regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Javier Cervantes, the executive director of equity, diversity, and inclusion with the Greater Albany Public Schools, reminded the group about Linn Benton Community College's Unity Celebration this Friday, March 4, 2022, on Zoom at 9:00 a.m. Newton noted that some Black History Month webinars are available on LBCC's website.

The annual report presentation was postponed until the March 23, 2022, City Council meeting.

Highlights From this Meeting for 2022 Annual Report Preparation

7:31 p.m.

There were no highlights noted at this time.

Business from the Commission

7:31 p.m.

There was no business from the commission.

Staff Updates

7:32 p.m.

The City Council will be looking at appointing a new member to the HRC at their meeting tomorrow night, February 23, 2022.

The City of Albany joined the Local Government Hispanic Network. City management reached out to them for any engagements they would have for the City Council or advisory groups. At this time, the network is not set up in that area, but Lyddane will keep checking back with them.

The Hispanic Advisory Committee would like to keep meeting with the HRC. Newton will reach out to them to glean a date for a joint meeting.

Lyddane instructed the group to be thinking about how they would like to meet once the mask mandate is dropped. It will be on the next agenda to discuss.

Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Chair Newton adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Signature on file

Signature on file

Gina Burrese
Administrative Assistant

Kim Lyddane
Parks & Recreation Director

**Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. The documents are available by emailing cityclerk@cityofalbany.net.*