



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES

June 28, 2022

7:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL

Approved: July 26, 2022

Call to Order

Chair Stephanie Newton called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Greg Soriano, Sonja Neperud, Jamie Jones, Stephanie Newton, Miriam Cummins, Robyn Davis, and Keith Kolkow

Members absent: None

Business from the public

7:02 p.m.

There was no business from the public.

Approval of May 24, 2022, minutes

7:03 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner Miriam Cummins moved to approve the May 24, 2022, minutes. Commissioner Robyn Davis seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Executive Director Jason Dorsette; Office of Institutional Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

7:04 p.m.

Executive Director Jason Dorsette said that his responsibility as director is to explore existing opportunities and create new ones to enhance the college's equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts. He has spent significant time connecting with area leaders and talks with colleagues around the state about ways to recruit and maintain talent from marginalized communities. He is also working with LBCC colleagues to design a climate survey as well as a bias response protocol for their institution. LBCC is looking for ways to align diversity and inclusion efforts with organizations like the HRC.

LBCC is applying to become a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). The Department of Education offers grants to institutions defined as HSIs. Also, LBCC received a different grant to help update their website and are evaluating which information is most critical to translate into Spanish. They are looking for Spanish translators to contract with.

Commissioner Greg Soriano praised the Juneteenth Celebration and expressed his gratitude for LBCC's contribution to the event. Dorsette will reconnect with the HRC next spring for City support in a unity walk raising awareness around sexual assault and violence.

Dorsette would like to make connections through the commission to have diversity and inclusion conversations with community members. The commission thanked Dorsette for his time. Dorsette thanked Commissioner Keith Kolkow for the pride event he organized in Albany.

Albany Public Library's Spanish collection mural **7:24 p.m.**
A couple of artists were recommended and will be meeting with Librarian I Millie Barriger for direction. A timeline is still being formulated.

HRC proposed project updates **7:26 p.m.**
There were no updates.

HRC event debriefs and upcoming events from HRC calendar **7:29 p.m.**
Kolkow thanked City staff for their help with the pride event.

Highlights From this meeting for 2022 annual report preparation **7:31 p.m.**
The group decided to highlight Dorsette's presentation, their volunteer presence at the Juneteenth Celebration, and the pride event for the report.

Business from the commission **7:33 p.m.**
Davis asked the commission to present a proclamation for the City Council to endorse in support of women's reproductive rights. Davis will research other cities' actions for a template the HRC could use.

Cummins would like to see the City use the same type of program that the City of Corvallis uses, where they ask the community what changes they would like to see for their city. Parks and Recreation Director Kim Lyddane and Communications and Engagement Officer Matt Harrington described the City's strategic plan and how it is being updated. The HRC could be helpful in bringing community requests before the City Council and especially now during the budget season.

Staff updates **7:50 p.m.**
There were three updates:

- Harrington will be acting as staff liaison while Lyddane is on leave for three months.
- Harrington designed a button for the HRC to wear and has it available at the Parks & Recreation counter.
- A reminder that the commission had decided to open the Human Relations Award application process in July 2022.

Newton requested that city staff post the award application opening on the city's website.

Next meeting date
The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Tuesday, July 26, 2022.

Adjournment
Hearing no further business, Chair Newton adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Signature on file

Signature on file

Gina Burrese
Recorder

Matt Harrington
Communications and Engagement Officer