



Minutes
Human Rights Commission
Study Session

Date: Monday, May 13, 2024

Time: 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Study Session

Location: Hybrid Tacoma Municipal Building

747 Market Street

Conference Room #243

Tacoma, WA 98402

Zoom (Click the following link to join the meeting):

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81908915518>

Meeting ID: 819 0891 5518

STUDY SESSION
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

- **Called to Order at 5:38 PM**

Tacoma Urban League Presentation: CEO Janice Lee

Unable to attend due to scheduling conflict, rescheduled to a future date.

Commissioners

Amanda Westbooke
C. Ivan Johnson
Mona Baghdadi
Lisa Hamlin
Bri Crofton
Lillian Norris

Verda Washington
Mary Ann Lara
Lily Nop
Lohitvenkatesh Oswal
Kelly Oshiro
Scott Schubert
Bre Johnson



Minutes
Human Rights Commission
Business Meeting

Date: Monday, May 13, 2024

Time: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Business Meeting

Location: Hybrid Tacoma Municipal Building
747 Market Street
Conference Room #243
Tacoma, WA 98402
Zoom (Click the following link to join the meeting):

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Meeting ID: 819 0891 5518

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

I. Call Meeting to Order – Chair Amanda Westbrooke

- *Meeting called to order at 6:31 PM.*

II. Record of Attendance and Excusal of Absences

- Amanda Westbrooke, Chair (she/her)
- Verda Washington, Second Vice Chair (she/her)
- ~~Bri Crofton (they/them)~~ absent
- ~~C. Ivan Johnson (he/him)~~ absent
- ~~Lillian Norris (she/her)~~ absent

Commissioners

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- Lily Nop, Youth Seat (she/her)
- ~~Scott Schubert~~-excused
- Mona Baghdadi
- Lisa Hamlin
- ~~Bri Johnson~~ excused
- Lohitvenkatesh Oswal
- Kelly Oshiro
- Mary Ann Lara

III. Approval of May 2024 Business Meeting Agenda – Chair Westbrooke

- a. *Commissioner Hamlin made a motion to approve the agenda.*
- b. *Commissioner Oshiro seconded the motion.*
- c. *The Ayes have it and the Business Agenda is approved.*

IV. Statement of Purpose – Commissioner Baghdadi

We convene this meeting to study and investigate problems of prejudice, bigotry, and discrimination and to encourage and coordinate the implementation of programs consistent with the needs and rights of all residents of the City of Tacoma.

V. Land Acknowledgment – Vice Chair Washington

The Commission acknowledges that the meeting is being conducted on Indigenous lands of the Puyallup People, who cared for their ancestral lands before the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854 removed native peoples to clear way for colonial settlement. It is important to this Commission as settlers here, aspiring to care for all residents in this place and to call it home, that we acknowledge and send gratitude to the Puyallup Tribe of Indians who continue to be leaders for justice in our community today.

VI. Consent Agenda –Chair Westbrooke

- a. Approval of April 2024 Minutes (Aye/Nay Votes)
 - a. *Commissioner Oshiro made a motion to approve the agenda.*
 - b. *Commissioner Lara seconded the motion.*
 - c. *The Ayes have it and the Business Agenda is approved.*

VII. Public Comment (2 minutes per speaker)

Commissioners

Amanda Westbooke
 C. Ivan Johnson
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 Kelly Oshiro
 Scott Schubert
 Bri Johnson

- *District 2 Resident Tre Parrish offered comments and questions related to the function of the Human Rights Commission and Office of Equity and Human Rights. Requested follow-up for a meeting with OEHR staff.*

VIII. City Staff Updates – OEHR Staff

- a. General Updates
- b. No Case Closures
- c. Upcoming Engagement Opportunities
 - i. AAPI Heritage Month Celebration – Food Truck at City Hall on Tuesday, May 14th
 - ii. Bike Rodeo at Birney Elementary School
 - iii. DSHS Resource Fair on June 5th
 - iv. Fair Housing Lunch and Learn June 13th

IX. Commission Affairs

- a. Chair Updates
 - i. Ceasefire Memo Update
 1. *Discussion related to process of resolution being offered at council and passed.*
 - ii. CVS Chair Recognition
 1. *Commissioner Baghdadi to reach out to local artist for a heart sculpture to be offered as recognition to Councilmember Ushka for all her advocacy and work for the marginalized communities of Tacoma.*
 - iii. Retreat Coordination
 1. *Liaison Shattuck to send out a Doodle Poll with September 7, 14, or 28th as potential Retreat dates. OEHR Equity Manager Pele will facilitate the retreat to be held locally (potentially at Center for Spiritual Living) and to be catered by Too Busy to Cook. To meet 9:30 am – 4 pm after discussion.*
- b. Committee Coordination
 - i. Education and Outreach
 - *No Update*
 - ii. Policy, Advocacy, and Accountability
 - *Requested update on shared drive project for historical documentation.*
 - *Committee will continue discussion about housing insecurity data from community member Sally Perkins.*
 - iii. Racial Justice and Equity

X. Announcements

XI. Items to Consider for Next Meeting:

Commissioners

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- a. *Nominations for Second Chair Election*
- b. *Potential speakers to come and share about their organizations: Tacoma Rescue Mission, Hilltop Action Coalition, Tacoma Mutual Aid.*

XII. Adjourn

- a. *Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.*

Why do we recognize the land?

To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory you reside on, and a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial. It is important to understand the long-standing history that has brought you to reside on the land, and to seek to understand your place within that history. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context: colonialism is a current ongoing process, and we need to build our mindfulness of our present participation. It is also worth noting that acknowledging the land is Indigenous protocol.

–<http://www.lspirg.org/knowtheland>



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NOTES

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