

## HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

### MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING – April 3, 2019



**Meeting Called to Order at 6:07 pm by Chair Steve King**

**Roll Call: Present –**

- **Commissioners:** Commissioner Fung, Commissioner Gilford, Commissioner Hempstead, Chair King, Commissioner Piner, Commissioner Rivera, Commissioner Rodriguez, Commissioner Wiles, Advisor Henrion
- **Executive Director:** Claudine McDonald
- **Project Manager:** Dr. Barbara Shannon-Banister
- **Absent:** Vice Chair Coleman, Commissioner Futrell, and Commissioner Herlihy

**Minutes:** Commissioner Piner moved the March 6<sup>th</sup> minutes be approved. Commissioner Gilford seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

**Public Invited to Speak:** None.

**Chair Report:**

- o No written or verbal report.

**Manager's Report:**

- No written or verbal report.

**Project Manager's Report:**

- **Race Forum: Health and Race** coming up on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - o There may be a health fair in the lobby. HRC's help would be welcome and encouraged.
- Commissioner Piner suggested contacting 9news in reference to their health fair to possibly set up a second site at the AMC.
  - o Ms. McDonald shared that she would reach out to the connections she has.

**Creating a Google Doc for HRC:**

- Chair King received some responses as to what types of topics/guest speakers the HRC would like to explore.
  - o The Google Doc will be sent out again and include the new commissioners for their input.
  - o Commissioner Piner suggested the link to the Google Doc be included in the monthly e-mail sent by Marianna, administrative staff.
  - o Ms. McDonald is trying to obtain permission for the commission to utilize a portion of the City's SharePoint for file sharing.

**Henrion's Nuggets:**

- Mental Health Discrimination
- Reasonable Accommodation
- Harassment
- Denver Meadows
- Commissioner King asked if there had been any type of complaints lately.
  - o Dr. Banister talked to a few individuals but none that wanted to make a formal report for fear of retaliation.
  - o Chair King and Commissioner Gilford proposed a campaign to raise awareness of individual's rights.
  - o This topic could be included in Commissioner Futrell's mental health symposium.

- Commissioner Hempstead suggested there be a way for the complaints to be brought to light anonymously.
- Ms. McDonald recommended that the number of grievances and locations be tracked to monitor trends in order to develop a training around the issue(s).
- Colorado Civil Rights Division will be added to the list of presentation topics for the HRC.

#### **Commissioner City Council Contact Reports:**

- Commissioner Piner – Left a message.
- Commissioner Rodriguez – Contacted Council Member Bob Roth. He's really interested and is going to try and come to a HRC meeting. The outreach/partnership survey will be sent to him.
- Vice Chair Coleman – Left a message.
- Chair King – Spoke to Council Members Lawson and Watson and encouraged them to get involved.

#### **Committee Reports:**

- Events/Forums: Commissioner Hempstead shared information for the potential 2019 Culture of Aurora Art Competition.
  - To celebrate the diversity of the community and the cultures that are here.
  - Applicants must be students within the City of Aurora and art made in the classroom.
  - Reach out to APS and Cherry Creek School Schools in order to see if this could be incorporated into their curriculum.
  - The most challenging part is finding a location to display the art.
    - A proposed date is needed in order to move forward.
  - Commissioner Gilford suggested a scholarship/award, meeting the mayor/council, photo opt, and possibly featuring their story on Channel 8.
    - Dr. Banister shared that HRC has some money in gifts & grants.
    - Commissioner Piner suggested reaching out to local businesses as sponsors.
    - Suggested sponsors: Guiry's and DAVA.
  - Commissioner Fung will join Commissioner Hempstead on the Events/Forums Committee.
- Training: Chair King encouraged new commissioners to please join a committee.
- Outreach/Partnership: Commissioner Piner e-mailed Meg Allen, Neighborhood Liaison, in reference to a block party kit.
  - Will have more information in May.
- Communications: Commissioner Rivera is joining Commissioner Rodriguez on the Communications Committee.
  - The HRC brochure will be brought to the next meeting.

#### **Group Discussion:**

- Final proposals for all projects solidified and due in May for a retreat in June.
- April 11<sup>th</sup> on the Lowry Campus of CCA – Building a Better Colorado from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.
- Dr. Banister – does the HRC want to continue to have a youth member as the position has been hard to fill. It would be an ordinance change.
  - Commissioner Gilford and Chair King believe the position is beneficial and will do some outreach.
  - Utilize social media channels to market the opportunity.
  - The group discussed the possibility of providing an Uber to and from the meeting using City funds if it's allowed.
- Aurora Fox Annual Gala – April 27th

#### **Talking Points:**

- HRC Strategic Planning Retreat in June
- Race Forum: Health and Race – Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>
- There are four new commissioners: Adam Fung, Jim Herlihy, Kimberly Rivera, and Amy Wiles
- New Community Relations Division Manager – Claudine McDonald

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:19 pm**

**NEXT MEETING:** The next HRC meeting will be held on May 1, 2019 in the Aspen Room at 6:00 pm.

**Minutes Transcribed by:** Marianna Martinez on 4/5/19

**APPROVED:** Commissioner Kimberly M River  
Chair Steve King