

Minutes

Human Relations Commission

May 12, 2020

Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 6:00 p.m., virtually through Microsoft Teams at the following link: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) or by telephone: +1 480-498-8745 United States, Phoenix (Toll), Conference ID: 128 729 724#

(MEMBERS) Present:

Chair Kate Vawter
Vice Chair Hugo Tapia
Dino Castelli
Beth Dietz
Michelle Donati-Grayman
Jana Lynn Granillo (Left early)
Carl Hermanns
Ira King, Jr. (Arrived late)
Jeanne Powers
Joe Rojas

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Vacant Position

City Staff Present:

Jonae Harrison, Equity & Inclusion Manager
Megan Hutchison, Executive Assistant to the City Manager's Office

Call to Order

Chair Vawter called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Minutes: HRC – March 10, 2019

Motion made by Commissioner Hermanns to approve the meeting minutes of March 10, 2020; Second by Commissioner Castelli. Motion passed on a 9-0 vote. Ayes: Chair Vawter, Vice Chair Tapia, and Commissioners Dino Castelli, Beth Dietz, Michelle Donati-Grayman, Jana Lynn Granillo, Carl Hermanns, Jeanne Powers, and Joe Rojas. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Ira King, Jr.

Agenda Item 3 – Program Postponement

- a. Challenge Day
- b. Unity Grants

Chair Vawter suggested Unity Grant and Challenge Day funding be postponed in conformity to staff recommendation, and the money be used for COVID-19 related efforts. She also reminded the Commission that during March's meeting, there had been a discussion regarding Tempe Union High School District's desire to not hold any Challenge Day events. The Commission discussed and decided to move forward with the suggestion. Motion made by Commissioner Castelli on affirmation of postponement of Unity Grants and Challenge Day. Second by Vice Chair Tapia. Motion passed on a 10-0 vote. Ayes: Chair Vawter, Vice Chair Tapia, and Commissioners Dino Castelli, Beth Dietz, Michelle Donati-Grayman, Jana Lynn Granillo, Carl Hermanns, Ira King, Jr., Jeanne Powers, and Joe Rojas. Nays: None. Absent: None

Agenda Item 4 – COVID-19 Checkin and Updates

Jonae Harrison gave an update on current city operations including services and programs developed to help businesses and homeless during the COVID-19 pandemic. She also mentioned the Strategic Management and Diversity Office is in the process of producing three surveys; Employee Survey, Community Survey, and a COVID-19 & Equity Survey. Once completed, all of these results will be published to the city's website and available for public viewing. Jonae then let the Commission know that a second wave of the coronavirus is anticipated in the fall. This will affect upcoming events such as the Tardeada in October and the MLK Diversity Awards in January. She will conduct research on these events and alternative options and will report back to the Commission at the next meeting. The Commission discussed the recent increase of social activity in the community and the decrease of those wearing masks. The Commission decided to put forth a recommendation to Mayor and Council. Motion made by Commissioner Hermanns to authorize Jonae Harrison to create a memo to Mayor and City Council on the behalf of the Commission containing the following three requests of action: 1. Order/Proclamation requiring masks be worn, 2. Take Care of Your Neighbor. Wear a Mask. PR Campaign, and 3. City Leadership to reiterate mask wearing messaging to public. Second by Commissioner Castelli. Motion passed on a 9-0 Vote. Ayes: Chair Vawter, Vice Chair Tapia, and Commissioners Dino Castelli, Beth Dietz, Michelle Donati-Grayman, Carl Hermanns, Ira King, Jr., Jeanne Powers, and Joe Rojas. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Jana Lynn Granillo

Agenda Item 5 – Proposed Future Agenda Items

Chair Vawter reiterated items that should be added to the June Commission meeting as discussed earlier in the meeting. Items are: Event Updates, Review Data from COVID-19 & Equity Survey, and Amendment to the Recommendation to Council. Vice Chair Tapia requested that the June meeting also contain the agenda item, COVID-19 Check-In and Updates. Commissioner Dietz recommended adding HRC Structure to all future agendas, if time would allow. Chair Vawter let the Commission know that if they have any other items they would like added to future agendas, they should contact Jonae Harrison.

Agenda Item 6 – Upcoming Meeting June 9, 2020

Meeting will be held virtually through Microsoft Teams

Motion made by Commissioner Castelli to adjourn the meeting
Second by Commissioner King
Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Prepared by: Megan Hutchison

Reviewed by: Jonae Harrison