



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

Monday, May 8, 2023

Community Design Studio Nave
7506 E Indian School Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Emily Hinchman, Chair
James Eaneman, Vice Chair
Tina Drews
Matthew Keen
Stuart Rhoden
Cynthia Romagnolo
Janice Shimokubo

STAFF: Jackie Johnson, Diversity Program Director
Brent Stockwell, Assistant City Manager
Bill Hylan, Assistant City Attorney
Stanna Slater, LGBT Liaison

GUESTS: Rachel Pearson, Experience Scottsdale

Call to Order

Chair Hinchman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Land Acknowledgement

Public Comment

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

1. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes for April 10, 2023

COMMISSIONER DREWS MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 10, 2023, HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER DREWS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR HINCHMAN, VICE-CHAIR EANEMAN, COMMISSIONERS DREWS, KEEN, RHODEN, ROMAGNOLO, AND SHIMOKUBO VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Update and discussion regarding the Scottsdale Tourism and Events Strategic Plan

Rachel Pearson, Vice President of Community and Government Affairs, Experience Scottsdale, gave a presentation outlining Experience Scottsdale's five-year strategic plan, highlighting areas of particular interest to the Commission. She gave an overview of the phases involved in developing the plan, which included public outreach, benchmarking and stakeholder engagement, evaluation and recommendations, implementation, and development of an action plan. She highlighted some of the plan priorities, including community well-being, which will include supporting Honor Health's initiative to make Scottsdale a Blue Zone; culture and creativity; and travel hospitality advocacy and education, which will include strategies to steward diversity and inclusion within the hospitality industry. She noted that those who are interested in reviewing the entire Scottsdale Tourism Strategic Plan can find it at ScottsdaleAZ.gov. She invited Commissioners to attend a Zoom Webinar on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, starting at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Pearson said that Dale Wiebusch is a member of the Experience Scottsdale Public Policy Committee and keeps them apprised as to legislation, such as SB 1694, that could affect the organization or the community. She talked about the Valley-wide efforts that go into booking special events and ensuring that once booked, visitors are attracted to Scottsdale. Ms. Pearson described the demographic of the target segments, "active adventurers" and "all-in enthusiasts," noting that although those areas typically have higher household incomes, activities in Scottsdale are available for all budgets.

It was suggested that Experience Scottsdale take an opportunity to offer an in-depth version of the Scottsdale Tourism and Events Strategic Plan presentation to the Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force. It was also suggested that as part of the Human Relations Commission's efforts to unite in more community-centric events, consideration be given to getting involved with the Blue Zone efforts.

3. Discussion and possible recommendations regarding amendments to Scottsdale's Anti-Discrimination Ordinance including hate crimes, hate speech, bias, and hair discrimination

Discussion ensued regarding areas where the Commission can and cannot recommend changes to Scottsdale's anti-discrimination ordinance. Mr. Stockwell explained that under current state law, they are unable to make some recommendations. Continuing discussion included comparison of Scottsdale's anti-discrimination ordinance with language in other states' ordinances; ways in which the ordinance may be able to be expanded; hate crime reporting; public messaging about behavior and language that is and is not acceptable; and educating citizens about "Scottsdale For All." Mr. Stockwell reviewed the process for processing a hate crime and how they are prosecuted in the state of Arizona. He noted that the term "criminal mischief" that is used in some other states' ordinances, would be similar to Revised Statute 13-1602, relating to criminal damage, in Arizona. Mr. Hylen clarified that the majority of things the City Prosecutor's office prosecutes are state crimes and the city does not have the ability to enact an ordinance that would make a state crime a hate crime. Mr. Stockwell added that another state law would be Revised Statute 13-2904, disorderly conduct, which is typically a misdemeanor, could be pursued in a range from a minimum fine for something that is not hateful but still a crime; those with a hate component would go to the upper limits.

Chair Hinchman said that she, Vice-Chair Hinchman and Ms. Johnson are scheduled to meet with Police Chief Walther to gain clarity about the department's process for hate crime reporting and processing. They will ask about Chief Walther's communication with other police chiefs and if the department has done any comparison with other cities regarding hate crime reports and how graffiti is classified. Chair Hinchman will arrange to meet with the Library Board and the communications department to talk about events and marketing strategies and will report on her findings during the June meeting.

4. Update, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding the Human Relations Commission's Strategic Initiatives

Chair Hinchman stressed the importance of developing a plan moving forward, keeping in mind that several commissioners will be terming out during the next year-and-a-half. The Commission will invite the Library Board to attend a HRC meeting to begin discussions about hosting programs at the libraries.

Mr. Stockwell suggested that HRC could consider participating in the Youth Town Halls as part of the HRC strategic initiatives. He noted that Communities Celebrating Diversity is in the process of planning a Diversity and Dialogue Dinner at Scottsdale Community College sometime in the fall.

It was noted that there was recently an event of interest to the Commissioners that took place at the library that was not well advertised. Ms. Johnson explained that speaker Tiffany Haddish was in town on an unrelated visit, and she reached out at the last minute to book the event. Mr. Stockwell mentioned that the Scottsdale library system has the largest distribution list in the city, which will be a benefit in marketing HRC library events. He encouraged the Commission to continue to seek new ways to get positive messages out into the community and to have meaningful dialogue.

5. Update, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding recent and upcoming diversity and inclusion-related activities and incidents impacting the City of Scottsdale

a. Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Month

Ms. Johnson said that the panel discussion that was being planned by the Asian Corporate Entrepreneur leaders and Scottsdale Community College for Monday, May 22, 2023, has been postponed and will instead be scheduled as part of AXEL's conference in August. She anticipates that an AAPI month event will be planned for May of 2024.

b. LGBTQ+ Pride Month

Ms. Johnson announced that an LGBTQ+ Summit, "The Evolution of Pride, Transformative DEI" is scheduled for June 2, 2023, at ASU. She will forward details to those who are interested in participating as they come available.

c. Juneteenth Community Celebration

Ms. Johnson announced that the Juneteenth Community Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, June 17, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Scottsdale Arts. This year's sponsors include SRP, PetSmart, Renewal by Anderson, Scottsdale Firefighters' Association, and Honor Health.

6. Identification of Future Agenda Items

Upcoming meetings could include:

- Blue Zone Initiative
- Strategic Initiatives
- Anti-discrimination ordinance

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 12, 2023.

Adjournment

COMMISSIONER EANEMAN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER RHODEN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR HINCHMAN, VICE-CHAIR EANEMAN, COMMISSIONERS DREWS, KEEN, RHODEN, ROMAGNOLO, AND SHIMOKUBO VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Recorded and transcribed by eScribers, LLC.