



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

Monday, January 8, 2024

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

PRESENT: James Eaneman, Chair
Tina Drews, Vice Chair
Ashley Adams
Emily Hinchman
Robin Reed (arrived at 5:06 p.m.)
Cynthia Romagnolo

ABSENT: Matthew Keen

STAFF: Jackie Johnson, Diversity Program Director
Brent Stockwell, Assistant City Manager

GUESTS: Stephanie Zamora
Marvin Andersfeld

Call to Order

Chair Eaneman 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 that wished to speak.

1. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes for December 11, 2023

COMMISSIONER ROMAGNOLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 11, 2023, HUMAN

RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER HINCHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR EANEMAN, VICE-CHAIR DREWS, COMMISSIONERS ADAMS, HINCHMAN, AND ROMAGNOLO VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER REED WAS NOT PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Presentation, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding the name, purpose, and duties of the Human Relations Commission.

Brent Stockwell, Assistant City Manager, gave a presentation, outlining the history of Scottsdale Human Relations Commission, including information regarding the original naming of the Commission. He explained the HRC was created because of an organizational diversity assessment in 1998, that suggested the HRC's primary focus should be on issues external to the organization such as service delivery concerns, perceptions, and discrimination and should be staffed by the Office of Diversity and Dialogue. The purpose, powers, and duties of the commission were established through Ordinance 3315 and the first meeting was held in January of 2009. The purpose statement states, "the Commission should focus on encouraging mutual respect and understanding among people, discourage prejudice and discrimination, and work toward enhancing cultural awareness and unity throughout the community". Mr. Stockwell noted an organizational assessment has been funded for this year and is underway.

Mr. Stockwell explained many cities use the name "Human Relations Commission" based on the original Department of Justice Recommendation. He noted that the Commission has a role in overseeing and supporting the Anti-Discrimination Ordinance, which is in the Human Rights chapter of City Code, so it would make sense if the Commission wanted to recommend changing their name to "Human Rights Advisory Commission." It would also be appropriate for the Commission to consider making clarifying amendments to the purpose statement.

Discussion ensued regarding a document categorizing all actions that have been taken by the Commission in its 23 years of existence, potentially amending the purpose statement, and the process for forwarding a name change recommendation to City Council. Commissioners agreed to direct Chair Eaneman and staff to forward a letter to City Council recommending the name change and to agendaize further discussion regarding the purpose statement.

COMMISSIONER ROMAGNOLO MOVED TO RECOMMEND THAT THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION NAME BE CHANGED TO "HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION." COMMISSIONER HINCHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR EANEMAN, VICE-CHAIR DREWS, COMMISSIONERS ADAMS, HINCHMAN, REED, AND ROMAGNOLO VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

3. Update and possible recommendations regarding the partnership with Scottsdale Public Library and the Women's History Month celebration

Vice-Chair Drews stated she is in the process of coordinating a date with Gloria Feldt because the original date chosen was not viable. Pending Ms. Feldt's availability they have a tentative date of Thursday, March 21, 2024. Once this date is confirmed, the process of putting together marketing materials will begin and Vice-Chair Drews will communicate with library staff

regarding promoting Gloria Feldt's books during Women's History Month.

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

Jackie Johnson, Diversity Program Director, said the MLK Dinner, sponsored by Communities Celebrating Diversity is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 2024, at Scottsdale Stadium Field House, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Seats are still available for anyone who might be interested in attending.

The Regional Unity Walk is scheduled for January 27, 2024, and representatives from the Mayor's Youth Council will represent the City. The event is open to the public and HRC commissioners are welcome to participate. Opening events will begin at either 4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. and the walk will start at 6:00 p.m.

Staff is working on the Juneteenth sponsorship package, which is expected to be sent out next week. Sponsorships have changed to include an opportunity to expand the educational components of the program, making a bigger impact on the Community. The Juneteenth event will be held on June 15, 2024, at the Center for Performing Arts at Scottsdale Civic Center.

Ms. Johnson noted the Community Partners Meeting will be held at SkySong on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, starting with a networking session at 8:30 a.m. The program will include a legislative update from Dale Wiebusch, focused on anti DEI legislation.

5. Presentation, discussion, and action regarding the 2023 Human Relations Commission Annual Report

Ms. Johnson reviewed the annual report and answered clarifying questions regarding the report. Commissioners expressed an interest in additional information regarding the 28 recommendations that have been forwarded to City Council over the 23 years the Commission has been in existence.

COMMISSIONER REED MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2023 HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR EANEMAN, VICE-CHAIR DREWS, COMMISSIONERS ADAMS, HINCHMAN, REED, AND ROMAGNOLO VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

6. Identification of Future Agenda Items

Chair Eaneman congratulated Ms. Johnson on her two-year anniversary with the City.

Upcoming meetings could include:

- Library Partnership
- Follow up on Renaming the Commission
- Commission purpose statement

- Intern presentation about recommendations to diversify boards and commissions

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 12, 2024.

Adjournment

COMMISSIONER HINCHMAN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER REED SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR EANEMAN, VICE-CHAIR DREWS, COMMISSIONERS ADAMS, HINCHMAN, REED, AND ROMAGNOLO VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

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