



Minutes of the Salt Lake City Human Rights Commission regular meeting held on Thursday, January 18, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. held in the City & County Building, 451 South State Street, Room 335.

Attended:

Commissioner Jason Wessel, District 1

Commissioner Michael Iverson, District 4

Commissioner Nicole Salazar-Hall, District 5

Commissioner Shauna Doumbia, District 7

Commissioner Irene Ota, At-large

Commissioner Martin BuBu, At-Large

Fatima Dirie, Refugee Community Liaison, Office of the Mayor

Moana Uluave-Hafoka, Policy Advisor & Community Outreach for Diversity and Human Rights, Office of the Mayor

David Litvak, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor

Excused: Commissioner Fernando Rivero, District 7

Absent: Commissioner Denise Francis Montano, PHD, District 2

Meeting Minutes:

No public comment

New Commissioner Announcement: no new commissioners at this meeting.

Outgoing Commissioners: thanks and appreciation given to Commissioner Michael Iverson who was released after serving his first term per Mayor Biskupski's purview.

Commissioner Irene Ota resigned after questioning why Michael Iverson was not allowed to serve a second term. Moana explained that the Mayor feels there is a strong need to allow room for other people in the community to be given the chance to serve on the commission and that many members of the community have shown a strong interest in serving on the commission. Commissioner Irene Ota stated that she would resign if Michael Iverson was not reinstated. Moana further explained the Mayor's position for more people to be allowed to serve on the commission. Commissioner Irene Ota resigned on the spot, retrieved her belongings, and left the meeting.

Commissioner Jason Wessel asked Moana to help provide more advanced notice if a commissioner will not be able to extend their service into a second term.

After Commissioner Irene Ota left, Commissioner Jason Wessel acknowledged that they no longer had quorum and could only discuss items/were not allowed to make decisions.

Commissioner Shauna Doumbia comments on the commissioner positions being volunteer positions and that their time should be appreciated. In addition to appreciation Commissioner Shauna Doumbia also wishes to see things get done. She would like each Commissioner to supply the board with regular updates on pending projects that include any input or needs from the Mayor's Office. Moana spoke about the requirement of an annual report and that any additional updates will need to be owned by the HRC.

Commissioner Jason Wessel spoke about how he has requested a meeting with the Chief of Police and has yet to hear back on when it can be scheduled. He asked if Moana can help facilitate the scheduling of the meeting. She obliged.

Commissioner Jason Wessel also committed to being more forthcoming with his project updates to the board. He wishes to make updates on a weekly basis. He's current project, CEDAW letter, is in need of an update and he will follow up with Commissioner Denise Francis Montano to see where she is at on the project.

Commissioner Shauna Doumbia is overseeing the affordable housing project for the HRC and needs to meet with Moana to further discuss the City's current options. Commissioner Jason Wessel suggested Doumbia also look into HAND.

Commissioner Nicole Salazar-Hall arrived: making quorum again

Commissioner Jason Wessel discussed who will take over the People Experiencing Homelessness and Operation Rio Grande projects since those projects were under Commissioner Michael Iverson. The person who owns these projects will: stay in the loop with what is going on and update the HRC Board prior to Press Releases from the Mayor's Office, and keep an eye on everything to make sure there is a constant human rights angle. Commissioner Nicole Salazar-Hall offered to own these two projects. David Litvak, from the Mayor's Office, committed to keeping the HRC Board in the loop on changes to both People Experiencing Homelessness and Operation Rio Grande.

Commissioner Jason Wessel discussed the Gender Equity Tool; he wants to see what other cities are doing and was once told there was an intern in the Mayor's Office who was researching this. Moana offered to find that research and provide an update to the HRC Board.

Commissioner Jason Wessel discussed the Police Use of Force Report. At a previous meeting he asked that the report be made a living document that received regular updates in order to avoid the cost/time it will take to update the report less frequently. He has not heard back from the police department on if his request can be granted.

Commissioner Martin BuBu arrived.

Commissioner Jason Wessel discussed diversity recruitment. He is waiting for Salt Lake City Corporation's Human Resource department to send over the actual policy for the HRC Board to review. Commissioner Martin BuBu offered to own this project.

Commissioner Shauna Doumbia asked about what diversity trainings does the City do now? Moana responded with everything the City does do to promote diversity and a few things the City is working on implementing.

Next meeting agenda items:

Moana set forth that in the next meeting the HRC Board will go over their ordinance and the bylaws to clarify the board's position and responsibilities. Commissioner Jason Wessel asked if an electronic version can be sent out via email to the HRC Board prior to the next meeting. Another item that needs to be discussed at the next meeting is board leadership; who to appointment, and how to make those appointments?

Questions:

Commissioner Shauna Doumbia asked if there is anything that can be done about a board member's nonattendance. Moana went over the attendance policy. The same Commissioner Shauna Doumbia asked if there is anything that can be done if somebody stops replying to emails and stops showing up to meetings. Moana said she needs to ask the City's attorneys.

Safe Space:

The Human Rights Commission board freely discussed the effects and their feelings about President Trump's disparaging statements where he called certain countries "shitholes". The HRC Board is greatly disappointed by the President's comments.

Motion to accept minutes: There was no quorum last meeting. So no minutes to accept.

Motion to close the meeting: Commissioner Jason Wessel

Seconded: Commissioner Nicole Salazar-Hall

Date: 01-18-2018