

Minutes

Human Relations Commission

February 11, 2020

Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 6:00 p.m., at the City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 E. Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Beth Dietz
Michelle Donati-Grayman
Jana Lynn Granillo
Jeanne Powers
Joe Rojas
Hugo Tapia
Kate Vawter

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Dino Castelli
Carl Hermanns
Ira King, Jr.
Rochelle Johns

City Staff Present:

Jonae Harrison, Equity & Inclusion Manager
Erin Fillmore, Sr. Management Assistant to the City Manager's Office

Guests:

Sharon Burlingame, Assistant Police Chief
Mike Pooley, Assistant Police Chief

Call to Order

Chair Dietz called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Temporary Chair (Motion Required)

Jonae Harrison let the Commission know that due to open meeting law, the Commission will need to recast their votes for Chair and Vice Chair. Before the Commission can vote, a temporary Chair will need to be in place. She then suggested the Commission nominate Commissioner Dietz as temporary Chair. Motion by Commissioner Tapia to elect Commissioner Dietz as temporary Chair; Motion passed on a 7-0 vote. Ayes: Commissioners Beth Dietz, Michelle Donati-Grayman, Jana Lynn Granillo, Jeanne Powers, Joe Rojas, Hugo Tapia, and Kate Vawter. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioners Dino Castelli, Carl Hermanns, Ira King, Jr., and Rochelle Johns.

Agenda Item 2 – HRC Chair & Vice Chair (Motion Required)

Commissioner Tapia nominated Commissioner Vawter for Chair.

Chair Dietz nominated Commissioner Tapia as Vice Chair.

The Commission voted and the final vote for Chair was: 7-0 vote in favor of Commissioner Vawter being the Chair. Ayes: Commissioners Beth Dietz, Michelle Donati-Grayman, Jana Lynn Granillo, Jeanne Powers, Joe Rojas, Hugo Tapia, and Kate Vawter. Nays: None. Commissioner. Absent: Commissioners Dino Castelli, Carl Hermanns, Ira King, Jr., and Rochelle Johns.

The Commission voted and the final vote for Vice Chair was: 7-0 vote in favor of Commissioner Tapia being the Vice Chair. Ayes: Commissioners Beth Dietz, Michelle Donati-Grayman, Jana Lynn Granillo, Jeanne Powers, Joe Rojas, Hugo Tapia, and Kate Vawter. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioners Dino Castelli, Carl Hermanns, Ira King, Jr., and Rochelle Johns.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 4 – Consideration of Minutes: HRC – December 10, 2019 (Motion Required)

Motion by Vice Chair Tapia to approve the meeting minutes of December 10, 2019; Second by Commissioner Dietz. Motion passed on an 6-0 vote. Ayes: Chair Vawter, Vice Chair Tapia, and Commissioners, Beth Dietz, Michelle Donati-Grayman, Jeanne Powers, and Joe Rojas. Nays: None. Abstained: Commissioner Jana Lynn Granillo. Absent: Commissioners Dino Castelli, Carl Hermanns, Ira King, Jr., and Rochelle Johns.

Agenda Item 5 – Police Updates

Chair Vawter welcomed Assistant Police Chief Sharon Burlingame and Assistant Police Chief Mike Pooley to the meeting. Both Assistant Police Chief Sharon Burlingame and Mike Pooley thanked the Commission for the invite and proceed to introduce themselves. They then opened the floor to the Commission for any questions. The Commission asked about the training Tempe Police Officers must go through and how often that is available to them. Both Assistant Police Chief Sharon Burlingame and Mike Pooley discussed the many levels of training currently being offered. Assistant Chief Burlingame will bring in a detailed list of the trainings to the next HRC meeting. The Commission then referenced the events around the Antonio Arce case and the recent child pushing incident and inquired as to what the Police Department does to reconcile with the community after such high-profile events. Assistant Chief Sharon Burlingame responded that in ongoing investigations, they are limited on what information they are able to provide to the public. Many of the investigations can go on for over a year. Unfortunately, this time delay can give the public the perception that the Police Department is not being transparent. One of the ways they are trying to bridge the Police Department and the community is through outreach and the departments willingness to have an open dialogue. The Commission thanked them for their time!

Agenda Item 6 – Dolores Huerta (Motion Required)

The Commission discussed the next steps necessary to recognize Dolores Huerta. Motion by Commissioner Powers to move forward with branding criterion for youth scholarship to be advertised in 2020 and awarded in 2021; Second by Vice Chair Tapia. Motion passed on an 7-0 vote. Ayes: Chair Vawter, Vice Chair Tapia, and Commissioners, Beth Dietz, Michelle Donati-Grayman, Jana Lynn Granillo, Jeanne Powers, and Joe Rojas. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioners Dino Castelli, Carl Hermanns, Ira King, Jr., and Rochelle Johns.

Agenda Item 7 – HRC Future Meeting Location, Date & Time

Jonae Harrison let the Commission know that there are other options available to them as a location of future meetings. After reviewing, the best option would be the Business Resource and Innovation Center (BRiC) inside the Tempe Public Library. This space would allow the Commission to keep their meetings on the same day and time. The Commission discussed and decided to move the meetings to the BRiC. Commissioner Powers made a motion to officially move the HRC meetings to the BRiC; Second by Commissioner Rojas. Motion passed on an 6-0 vote. Ayes: Chair Vawter, Vice Chair Tapia, and Commissioners, Beth Dietz, Michelle Donati-Grayman, Jeanne Powers, and Joe Rojas. Nays: None. Abstained: Commissioner Jana Lynn Granillo. Absent: Commissioners Dino Castelli, Carl Hermanns, Ira King, Jr., and Rochelle Johns. Chair Vawter reiterated to the Commission that the move to a new location was due to the accessibility challenge of the current location, City Hall.

Agenda Item 8 – HRC Vision & Structure

Chair Vawter recommended this item be tabled to a future meeting due to time constraints. Vice Chair Tapia mentioned that Commissioner Dietz had prepared an outcome plan for the Commission to review. The outcome plan was then distributed to the Commission. The Commission agreed to table the item and discuss at the upcoming March meeting.

Agenda Item 9 – Upcoming Meeting March 10, 2020

**Motion made by Commissioner Donati-Grayman to adjourn the meeting
Second by Commissioner Granillo
Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.**

Prepared by: Megan Hutchison

Reviewed by: Jonae Harrison