

Tacoma Human Rights Commission

**STUDY SESSION**

April 21, 2022

**Commissioners Present:** Keshreeyaji Oswal, Melvin Nobles, Jr., Ronita Boullt, Norman Brickhouse, Verda Washington, Andre' Jimenez, Michealea Lemons

**Call to Order: Opened meeting at 5:34 p.m.**

**The Commission discussed three styles for Sharing Committee Goals and Accomplishments.**

- Should Committee updates be quarterly or monthly?
- Chair will share the Committee Report styles with Commissioners before next meeting.

**The Human Rights Manager will ask Media & Communications to Answer the Following Questions:**

- Does the Human Rights Commission have the authority to update Human Rights Commission Website information?
- Can the Human Rights Commission have its own Social Media accounts?

**Homelessness Update**

- The Homelessness Plan Feedback Overview:
  1. Travel Trailers are absent from Plan—Should be added as an option
  2. Pierce County Homelessness Coalition is looking into real estate to offer travel trailers
  3. Need to have a sanction for tents with amenities
  4. Need to have a multi-tiered approach
  5. The City is doing a great job to integrate services of various wide-range of agencies
  6. The City must take a countywide approach.
  7. The City must use an Equity lens to offer appropriate housing assistance.

Tacoma Human Rights Commission  
**BUSINESS MEETING**  
April 21, 2022

**Commissioners Present:** Keshreeyaji Oswal, Melvin Nobles, Jr., Ronita Boult, Norman Brickhouse, Verda Washington, Andre' Jimenez, Michealea Lemons

**Call to Order: Opened Meeting at 6:34 p.m.**

**Roll Call**

**Approval of Business Meeting Agenda:** A motion to approve the Meeting Agenda was made and passed.

**Approval of March Meeting Minutes:** A motion to approve the March Meeting Notes was made and passed. One change, Study Session was in "March"

**Public Comment—No public comment**

**Staff Report:** Andreta Armstrong reported that the City hired Russ Alarcon as the Fair Housing Coordinator.

**Commission Discussion:**

- The Commission discussed giving guest speakers at HRC meetings a \$50 honorarium—when speaker is not a City or State employee.
- Andreta will ask Chief Equity Officer if the Commission can pay \$50 honorarium to speaker, without using the \$1,500 annual budget allotted for each Commission within OEHR.
- The four cases (companion housing cases) before the Commission were approved.
- The Commission discussed Chief Moore not attending last month's HRC meeting.
- The Commission decided to form a committee to develop a response to the Crime Reduction Plan
- Comments about Chief Moore's Crime Reduction Plan include:
  - Not enough information about the causes of crime;
  - Lacked systemic issues;
  - Did not address Mental Health services;
  - Lacked a clear equitable approach
  - Lacked community involvement in determining issues and possible resolutions
- 2022 Retreat Planning
  - Human Rights will ask Clerk's Office about the appropriate ways to meet. Can the Commission meet in a park, instead of a virtual meeting?

**Adjournment**