

CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Date of Meeting

Time of Meeting

Place of Meeting

Minutes of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Commission Meeting

September 12, 2023

3:00 PM

Zoom only

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call Present: Nancy Goodloe, Mayra Colazo, Kandee Cleary, Amber Hoefer
Alex Mandujano and Tylene Carnell

Also present: Nicole Klauss, Public Information Officer (Recording Secretary); Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager; Jodi Hctor, Aquatic & Recreation Supervisor; and 1 member of the public

Commissioner Cleary moved to approve an excused absence for Teresa Divine.
Commissioner Carnell seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

2. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Carnell moved to approve the agenda with the removal of item 8B, discussion about Robert's Rules, to be pushed to the October agenda. Commissioner Cleary seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes from August 8, 2023 Meeting and August 11, 2023 Retreat

Commissioner Colazo moved to approve the minutes from the August 8, 2023 DEI Commission Meeting and the August 11, 2023 Retreat. Commissioner Carnell seconded the motion. Discussion was that the retreat was good. **Motion approved 5-0.**

4. Previous Meeting Motions And To-Do List Review

DEI Commission will assign tasks at October meeting.

5. Liaison Reports

None.

6. Subcommittee Reports

Chair Goodloe reported the Interview Subcommittee forwarded the recommendation of Phil Backlund to the City Council for appointment to the DEI Commission. There were two excellent candidates, and it was a tough decision. The other applicant's information will stay on file for six months and the applicant may be contacted about serving on one of the other City boards or commissions that was listed as a second choice.

Commissioner Colazo reported that the Listening Tour Subcommittee met and selected Commissioner Togiailua as the chair. They have a list of future groups to reach out to. Colazo asked if there is a policy on how groups are selected and Chair Goodloe said not currently.

Chair Goodloe reported the Belonging In The Burg Subcommittee will be meeting with CWU on Sept. 19 to discuss the next event.

7. Commission Member Reports

Commissioner Colazo said CWDR will be doing a litter pickup on Thursday, 9/14 from 3-5 p.m. and people who want to join can meet at CWDR.

Commissioner Hoefer has a new job and will be leaving CWU to work for the Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs.

Commissioner Carnell reported Helen House is working with folks at KCRCO and other organizations serving youth to talk about programming, activities, and introducing kids to other kids to build connections and bring youth-serving organizations together.

8. New Business

A. Discussion Regarding Pool Signage and Inclusivity

Jodi Hctor discussed a recent incident at the pool and the staff's plans to improve signage at the facility. She mentioned adding some curtains to the restrooms to create changing stalls for anyone who wants privacy.

Commissioner Carnell expressed appreciation for Hctor bringing this issue forward. Carnell had asked the local transgender community for their thoughts, and they mentioned similar ideas to make it known that it's an inclusive space when someone walks in and adding ceiling runners. Carnell said she is available for ideas or conversations.

Hctor will send the signage links to the Klauss to distribute to the Commission for feedback.

B. Discuss partnership opportunity with Dispute Resolution Center

At the August meeting, Carolyn Thurston, Director of the Dispute Resolution Center of Yakima & Kittitas Counties gave a presentation about forming a Central Washington Equity Coalition. The Commission discussed the idea. All Commission members present expressed an agreement in participating and they would want to have a DEI Commission representative assigned to the Coalition.

The Commission would like to discuss the different models available at two different meetings. They suggested Klauss add the first model, North Central Washington Equity Alliance to the October agenda and the DRCGHP model to the November agenda.

Klauss will reach out to Thurston to let her know of the interest and discuss next steps.

C. Review Recommendation On Public Comment Requirements

Chair Goodloe thanked the Subcommittee for putting together the recommendation to remove the requirement for the public to provide their address at City Council meetings. The Commission suggested one small change to the proposed recommendation "...whether they are speaking as an individual or in a representative capacity."

Commissioner Cleary moved to forward the memo regarding Section 7 of 2022-45 Council Rules and Procedures – Providing Name and Address to the City Council for consideration. Commissioner Colazo seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

D. Adopt Goal List From Retreat

Chair Goodloe proposed some changes to the goal list developed at the retreat:

- Core focus: Assess and monitor pulse of the community and use data to understand and guide programming
- Begin to use data in decision making changed to Put a structure in place to be able to use data (1-year goal)
- Develop partnerships for planning a multicultural event to celebrate the opening of Unity Park that focuses on music, food, dance, etc.
- Develop a spending plan for 2024. (Keep on 90-day goal) Develop a proposal for City Council to request additional funding in the 2025-2026 budget. (Move to 1-year goal)
- Develop the strategies and partnerships to support diverse residents to apply to City boards to better reflect our diverse community. (Move to 1-year goal)
- Add pizza klatch to 90-day goals.

Commissioner Cleary moved to adopt the amended retreat planning outcomes, 10-year goals, 3-year goals, 1-year goals, and 90-day goals with the proposed changes. Commissioner Carnell seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

E. Adopt Accomplishments List From 2022 Retreat to 2023 Retreat

Commissioner Cleary moved to adopt the accomplishments list from the 2022 retreat to the 2023 retreat. Commissioner Mandujano seconded the motion. **Motion approved 5-0.**

9. Staff Report

Klauss reported that Commissioner Hoefer is scheduled to visit the Environmental Commission on 9/20/23 at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Conference Room.

10. Public Comment

Chair Goodloe called for public comment; there was none.

Commissioner Carnell mentioned that the 20+ Safe Space trainers each signed an MOU to provide two trainings each through the next year. So far two have been provided (Gallery One and EHS) with 77 people trained. If someone wants to set up a training they can reach out to Tylene@Helen-House.org or to Doug Fulp, KCHN, at doug@healthierkittitas.org.

Chair Goodloe provided an update that the Council approved the proclamations list and approved days but removed the Mexico Independence Day. Klauss will send the approved list out so people can sign up to write posts.

11. Preview Next Meeting October 10, 2023

- Robert's Rules vs consensus model (discussion led by City Manager)
- Discussion about procedure on how to choose listening tour audience
- Assign work from 90-day list

Meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Nicole Klauss

Drafted: 9/14/23

Approved: 10/10/23